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Monday March 30 1981
No 60.889
Price twenty pence

THE TIMES

The grim financial future facing universities, page 12

Solidarity is accused of attempting to take over power

The Polish Politburo yesterday considered a report accusing Solidarity, the independent trade union organization, of trying to seize power and of falling under the domination of a right-wing clique. But there were concessions to Solidary which is threatening an indefinite national strike from tomorrow. In Moscow, Tass depicted Poland as being virtually in the grip of counter-revolution.

Concessions offered by Politburo

By Dan van der Vat

The Politburo of the Polish Communist Party yesterday accused Solidarity, the independent trade union, of trying to usurp power and of falling under the domination of a right-wing clique—but it also offered important concessions.

Among these was what appeared to be a promise of an investigation into the recent alleged police assault in union officials in Bjdgoszcz which provoked the present crisis as well as an undertaking to punish the guilty.

The accusations and concessions were made in a speech by Mr Kazimierz Barcikowski, secretary of the party's Central Committee, during its ninth special plenary session which debated the latest and most serious confrontation between Solidarity and the state.

Mr Barcikowski's speech was notable for apparently accepting Solidarity's right to exist, whatever criticisms the party might have of it.

Millions of workers obeyed the union's call for a half-day general strike on Friday in protest against the alleged police brutality. An indefinite strike is threatened for Tuesday unless the two sides come to terms.

Mr Barcikowski delivered a report on the crisis on behalf of the Politburo, of which he is a member. According to dispatches from Warsaw by Reuters and Agence France-Presse, he claimed that Solidarity had allowed itself to be dominated by a right-wing faction. It was no longer a pressure group but was involved in "open battle against the party and against communism ... a struggle for power".

The union was allowing itself to be dragged into "anti-communist ... " and political adventurism. It was the duty of the Communist Party to oppose this tendency with all its strength. "Our main objective must be the fight against enemies of socialism", he said. The union's leaders owed it to the nation and themselves to weed out the anti-party elements.

Mr Barcikowski's remarks echoed attacks on Solidarity over the past few days in the Soviet media and those of East Germany, Czechoslovakia and other Warsaw Pact countries.

Since he has been associated with the moderate faction in the divided party, Mr Barcikowski may have been playing the part of a sheep in wolf's clothing to appease Poland's increasingly critical and anxious neighbours who have been piling on the pressure for resistance to Solidarity's growing demands.

Large Warsaw Pact forces are on "indefinitely extended" manoeuvres on Poland's eastern and western borders and along her coast.

Mr Barcikowski denounced Solidarity leaders' "attacks on the militia (police)" and accused them of "slanderous propaganda" in defying the country's leadership and "holding a gun to authority's head".

The present tension flows from the incident in the northern town of Bydgoszcz on March 19 when Solidarity officials were beaten up by plainclothes security police, according to the union's national leadership.

Mr Barcikowski said the regional authorities in the town had been right to break off a meeting with the union officials.

But he "deplored" the fact that the three officials had been attacked and needed hospital treatment. He said that the incident would be thoroughly investigated and it was essential that "those responsible should be punished.

This was a clear move in Solidarity's direction despite the harsh words in the rest of his report—the union wants, among other things, the dismissal of those responsible for the Bydgoszcz violence and protection for its officials and members.

He made another move in Solidarity's direction by dropping strong hints of democratization at all levels of the Communist Party

He ended his report by announcing the indefinite postponement of the ninth Special Party Congress, which could not be contemplated, he said, until Poland returned to social order.

On balance, his speech suggested that the moderates have the upper hand over the hardliners at present in the struggle within the party but that both sides are anxious to appease Moscow.

The Central Committee was in no doubt of the possible consequences if Tuesday's general strike goes ahead. The speeches acknowledged that it could bring economic disaster and threaten the existence of Poland. The country has food for less than 12 days and a huge foreign debt with little hard currency to pay it.

One curious aspect of yesterday's session was the low profile of Mr Stanislaw Kania, the party leader, who is identified with the moderate wing. He confined himself to opening the meeting

Talks between Solidarity and the Government, which were resumed on Friday after the warning strike, continued for another three hours and a half on Saturday.

After the talks Mr Andrzej Gwiazda, deputy leader of Solidarity, told reporters: "It is not an impasse". And Mr Mieczyslaw Rakowski, a Deputy Prime Minister and leader of the government side, said afterwards that he was hopeful of a solution today.

Tass reports violence and anarchy in Poland to Soviet public

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, March 29

A Soviet report of the Polish crisis today gave a picture of a country virtually in the grip of counter-revolution, and spoke of the "open struggle" by the independent trade union Solidarity against the state authorities.

A Tass report, ostensibly written by the news agency's correspondent in Warsaw but clearly representing the views of the Soviet leadership, said the dissident KOR (Social Self-Defence Committee) had strengthened its position within Solidarity. Its leaders were doing their utmost to frustrate negotiations with the Government to avert a general strike on Tuesday.

Tass quoted instructions issued by Solidarity that factories were to be "seized" and occupied by the strikers, transport and communications mobilized by Solidarity, and those who did not obey the union's instructions compelled to leave factories and institutions.

"The nature of this and other similar instructions, brought illegally by the Solidarity leaders, attests to the fact that the organization resorts to open methods of struggle against the legitimate state authority," Tass claimed.

"The provocative instructions and the brazen actions by the opponents of the socialist system show that the KOR leaders, who are actually running Solidarity, are taking measures in disregard for the legal authorities."

The agency accused local units of Solidarity of doing their best to discredit the police and security bodies and trying to intimidate their members. It said lists of people to be "isolated" were being prepared in a number of districts. In the Legnicia region, such lists giving the home addresses of civilian workers in the police force were being "openly drawn up".

Meanwhile, what Tass called subversive elements in the Kielce region were setting up roadblocks, and all road signs in that region had been destroyed. Solidarity leaders had launched "brazen attacks" on the Communist Party at a railway workshop in Wroclaw, and in Warsaw and other cities anti-socialist forces had tried to seize post offices.

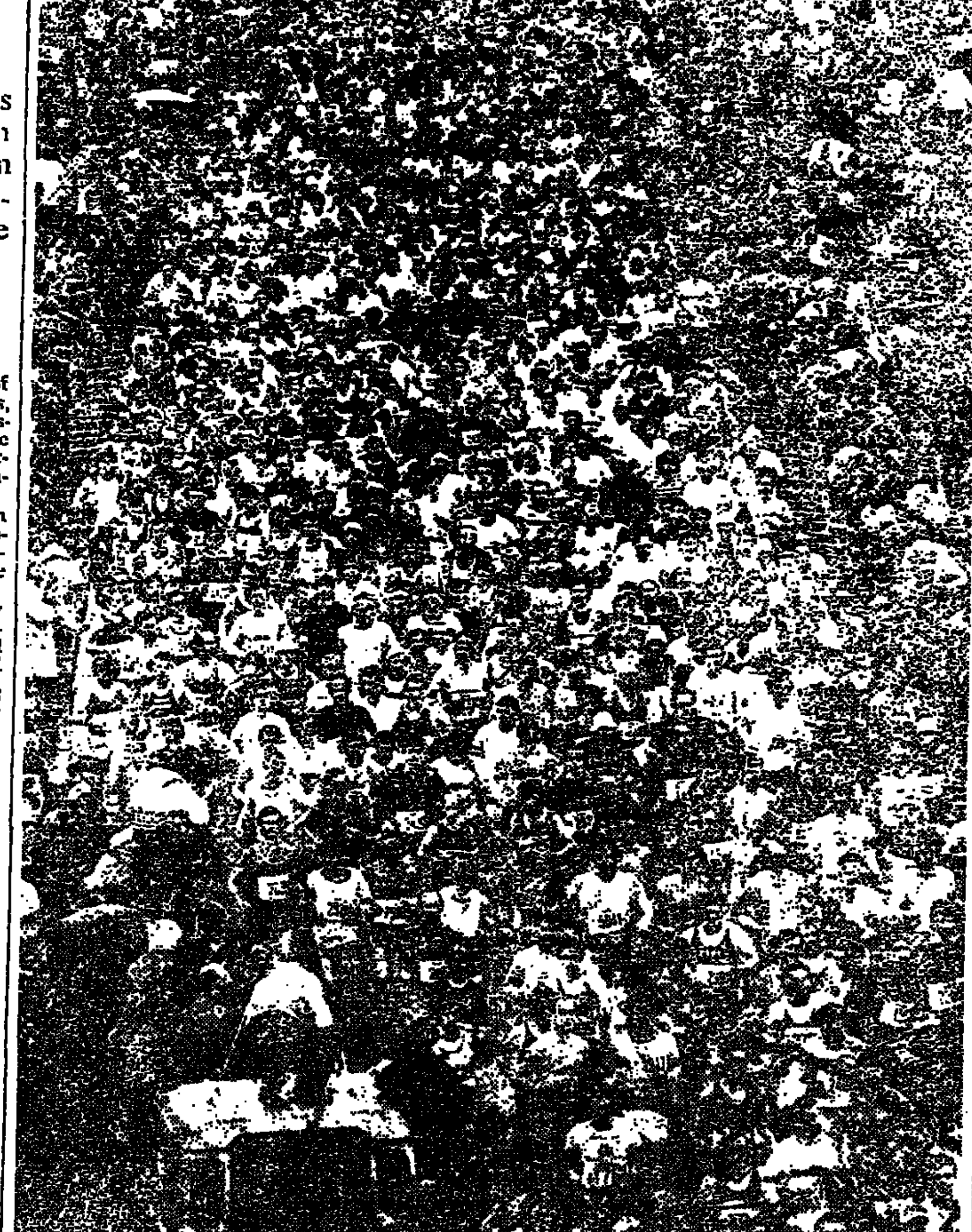
Completing this picture of violence and anarchy, clearly intended to convince the average Russian of the counter-revolutionary nature of events in Poland and the real danger of the overthrow of communism, Tass said that for a time Solidarity even managed to seize a television transmitter in Warsaw. But this "sally of the political instigators" was frustrated, the report said.

Noting that the party's Politburo and local party officials were meeting to discuss the tensions in the country, Tass blamed the crisis on the "provocative actions" of the union.

The sharp tone of these Soviet press comments will clearly make it hard for the Polish authorities to make any concessions in trying to defuse the crisis. The Russians have indicated that tough action and not compromise should be used to prevent a general strike.



Warsaw Pact armour on the move in East Germany.



Photograph by Keith Waldegrave

Some of the 7,000 runners in the London marathon throng Charlton Way, Greenwich.

Greek spirit triumphs in the marathon

By John Witherow

The ancient Greek spirit of stoicism triumphed over 26 gruelling, water-logged miles of London's roads yesterday as most of the 6,700 competitors completed the capital's first marathon.

Expressions ranging from elation to despair on the faces of the runners as they crossed the finishing line showed they had discovered and overcome pain barriers they never knew existed.

About half the competitors had attempted the full distance before yesterday but 80 per cent completed the course from Greenwich Park to Buckingham Palace.

They ranged from a girl aged 15 who had entered unofficially to Mr Robert Wiseman, at 78 the oldest man in the race. He had never run more than seven miles before but finished the course in just over six hours.

Encouraged by 17 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren, Mr Wiseman, from Greenwich, said he would have another go next year.

The boom of a 25-pound cannon sent the marathon men and women on their way at 9 am but it took the back of the field six minutes to reach the point from where the fastest runners had started.

Some of the competitors were alarmed to find themselves being quickly overtaken by long-distance walkers. The first walker to finish completed the course in three hours 12 minutes, a time that put many of the runners to shame.

The winners, Dick Beardsley and Inge Simonsen, who finished the race hand in hand were confronted as they ran along Constitution Hill by two protesters carrying a banner which said: "Victory for the Irish Hunger Strike". One of them was knocked down before being led away by police in the haste to clear the way.

Mr Christopher Brasher, organizer of the Gillette-sponsored marathon, who described it as "the people's race", broke three hours for the first time.

Friendly finish, page 9

Monetarism attacked by top economists

By David Blake

Three hundred and sixty-four of Britain's leading academic economists have today published an outspoken attack on the Government's handling of the economy.

The group, which includes most of the men who have held the coveted post of Chief Economic Adviser to governments since the war, declares that present policies are eroding the industrial base, deepening the depression and threatening social and political stability.

The attack comes in the form of a statement which was circulated in Britain's universities just after the Budget. Copies have been sent to the Prime Minister and to the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Although uncompromising in tone, it has succeeded in attracting massive support from the community of academic economists.

Among the signatories are the president, nine vice-presidents and the director-general of the Royal Economic Society.

The statement says: "We, who are all present or retired members of the economic staffs of British universities, are convinced that:

There is no basis in economic theory or supporting evidence for the Government's belief that by deflating demand they will bring inflation permanently under control and thereby induce an automatic recovery in output and employment;

Present poliices will deepen the depression, erode the industrial base of our economy and threaten its social and political stability;

There are alternative policies; and

The time has come to reject monetarist policies and consider urgently which alternative offers the best hope of sustained economic recovery."

Five men who have held the post of Chief Economic Adviser to the Government since the war have signed the statement. They are Professor James Meade, Lord Roberthall, Sir Alec Cairncross, Sir Bryan Hopkin and Sir Fred Atkinson.

The list includes 76 present or past professors. Thirty-six universities are represented.

The statement was organized by Professors Frank Hahn and Robert Nield at Cambridge.

Reagan monetarism, page 15

Indonesia gives in to hijackers

From David Watts in Singapore and Neil Kelly in Bangkok
March 29

President Suharto of Indonesia tonight agreed to release 84 prisoners, to meet demands of five hijackers holding 45 passengers hostage on a DC9 airliner at Bangkok airport.

The Thai Government later said a DC10 airliner, believed to be carrying the prisoners, had landed in Bangkok after flying from Jakarta.

The DC9 airliner was hijacked yesterday on a flight from Jakarta to Medan in northern Sumatra. The airliner touched down first on the island of Penang off the west coast of Malaysia before continuing to Bangkok.

A British hostage escaped from the airliner this afternoon by forcing open an escape hatch at the rear of the aircraft while the hijackers were distracted at the front.

Mr Robert Wainwright, aged 27, jumped to the ground and sprinted to safety with only minor injuries.

Mr Wainwright, a married man who lives in Jakarta, but comes from Cromford, Derbyshire, works for Milchem, an oil servicing company.

An American colleague Mr Karl Schneider, who works for the same company, tried to escape in similar fashion a few hours later. He was shot through the chest by the hijackers and may be paralysed for life.

Safe-conduct: Panama was today preparing safe-conducts for the armed hijackers of a Honduras jet who last night released their 47 remaining hostages in Panama City in exchange for the release of 13 political prisoners from Honduras.—Agence France-Presse.

Photograph, page 5

Mountbatten role in 1968 coup discussion denied by Sir Harold

By a Staff Reporter

Sir Harold Wilson said last night that a high-level coup to take over his government had been planned in the late 1960s.

The former Prime Minister gave no firm details of the instigators of the plan, except to describe them as people "high up in the press".

But he denied a report in *The Sunday Times* quoting his former political secretary, Lady Falkender, as saying that Lodd Mountbatten of Burma had been a "prime mover".

That claim was also denied yesterday by Mr Cecil King, former head of the IPC publishing group, who was present at the meeting where the attempt was said to have been discussed.

According to Mr King, he and Mr Cudlipp were summoned by Lord Mountbatten, who told them that the Queen was "very distressed and disturbed" about letters of complaint she had been receiving about the Government.

Protocol meant that these letters had to be sent to the Home Secretary, Lord Mountbatten had added, but "it was not very satisfactory sending letters of complaint to the people complained of".

Mr King added: "I told him I did not think there was anything he should do. I said there might come a time when the armed forces might have a part to play or the monarch might have a part to play, but it certainly was not then.

"In view of his position, I said it was important that he should keep his hands completely clean. It was not only inadvisable for him to do anything: it was imperative for him to do nothing."

According to *The Sunday Times*, Lady Falkender, then Mrs Marcia Williams, Mr Wilson's private secretary, named Lord Mountbatten as a prime mover in planning for a coup. But Mr King said Lord Mountbatten "gave me no inkling that he might have a coup in mind".

In a statement to the Press Association Sir Harold described the report, in the *Sunday Times*, as an "unwarranted slur" on the memory of the late earl.

Sir Harold's statement said: "Apart from my intervention in Parliament last week, the accuracy of which was confirmed by the Prime Minister, I had decided to reserve all farther statements for the commission of inquiry.

"But two statements in a Sunday newspaper today require instant repudiation. The first, in *The Sunday Times*, suggested that I was in 1977 peddling information to newspapers and 'then approached the BBC'. This is false.

"The director general of the BBC approached me and asked me if I would see two BBC researchers. They were Mr Penrose and Mr Courtiour. I agreed to do so.

"Shortly after I saw them the director general came to see me with apologies and warned me to have no more to do with them. They were, he said, writing a book and using the BBC as a cover for their interviews before going into Fleet Street.

"Since it was at his request that I had seen them he felt it right to come and tell me that the BBC could no longer take any responsibility for them.

"The second story, also in *The Sunday Times*, is an unwarranted slur on the memory of Lord Mountbatten.

"It is true, as the newspaper says, that one or two people high up in the press approached Lord Mountbatten to discuss their plan for a coup to take over the machinery of government.

"Mountbatten and Sir Solly Zuckerman sent them packing in the best quarter-deck manner."

The Sunday Times said that a plan to remove the Wilson Government became the subject of a secret investigation.

A report in *The Sunday Times* also alleged that the 1968 plot, according to Sir Martin Furnival Jones, former head of MI5, was taken seriously enough to be investigated by the secret service, which reported to Mr James Callaghan, then Home Secretary.

According to *The Sunday Times*, Sir Martin described the conspirators as "civil servant and military" and as a "pretty loony crew", but said that although the results were sent to Mr James Callaghan, then Home Secretary who it said, "was not slow to act", but no action was taken against them.

Sir Martin said yesterday he had not disclosed details of any investigation and added that *The Sunday Times* had misquoted him "on a number of quite important particulars".

There were conflicting responses to the account of a meeting at Lord Mountbatten's flat in May, 1968. Those present, apart from Lord Mountbatten and Mr King, were Mr Hugh (now Lord) Cudlipp, Mr King's successor as head of IPC, and Sir Solly (now Lord) Zuckerman, then the government's chief scientific adviser.

At that meeting, according to Lord Cudlipp's autobiography, Mr King asked Lord Mountbatten to serve as the head of an alternative government once Mr Wilson had been ousted. Lord Zuckerman was said to have stormed out saying: "This is rank treachery ... I will have nothing to do with it".

Lord Zuckerman yesterday backed up the account given in Lord Cudlipp's book,

Mr King, however, said the question of a coup was not raised by anybody.

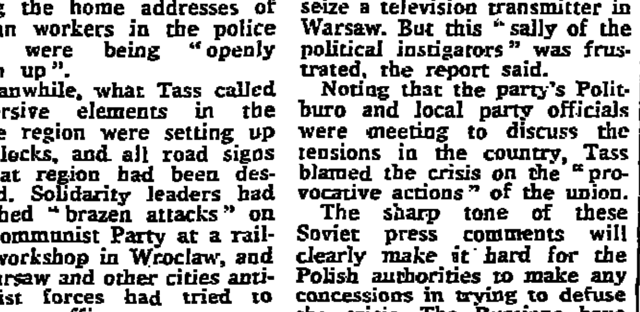
Lord Cudlipp describes in his autobiography how Mr King called him to a meeting with Lord Mountbatten and Lord Zuckermann.

He said Mr King asked the earl to serve as the head of an alternative government once Sir Harold was ousted and that Lord Zuckermann then stormed out of the room.

On the information matter, the newspaper report claimed that within weeks of his resignation in 1976, Sir Harold began suggesting to various newspapers that there was something rotten with the security services.

It then said that he approached the BBC and, in a series of interviews, "was dismantling the hallowed convention that a Prime Minister never discusses with outsiders the innermost secrets of the state".

Plea on MI6 officer, page 2



Benefit changes a spur to leaving school, heads say

Changes in the supplementary benefit rules had induced thousands of 16-year-old pupils to abandon plans to take public examinations this summer and to leave school early instead, the Secondary Heads Association said. The changes meant that summer form leavers would not be able to get benefit, if unemployed until September 1 Page 4

Whitehall union clash

A political dispute has arisen within the Civil and Public Services Association, the largest Civil Service union, over appointments to senior jobs and a plan for a secret ballot of members. Left-wing candidates for two posts are appealing for the overturning of appointments recommended by the executive Page 3

Further economic decline expected

A revised Confederation of British Industry forecast says that the decline in manufacturing output will continue until 1982 and unemployment may reach about 3,250,000. The TUC is poised to revive its "crisis guidance" on redundancies issued during the 1974 three-day week Page 15

West Indies in control

West Indies took control of the fourth Test against England in Antiga when they declared their first innings at 468 for 9. Richards was the top scorer with 114, his thirteenth Test century. Garner (46) and Holding (58 not out) provided surprising resistence among the lower-order batsmen Page 6

Hard British stand on ECC farm prices

Britain is taking a tough line on EEC farm prices. It is prepared to hold up agreement indefinitely on the annual price increases, expected in Brussels to be settled by April 11, unless a list of specific British demands is met in full Page 5

Newsreel saved: A scheme aimed at preserving historic newsreel shots by Pathé and Movietone has been started by the British Film Institute 3

Food industry: Four-page Special Report on food processors, a vital link between land and larder

Classified advertisements: Personal, pages 22, 24; Commercial properties, 10; Public and educational appointments, 9; Reader Services Guide, 21

Four killed in helicopter crash

Four people were killed in a helicopter crash on the outskirts of Silverstone village, Northamptonshire, last night.

They are believed to have been taking off after attending an international trophy meeting at the motor racing circuit.

Mr Jenkins suggests standstill on pay

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

A "standstill" on real wages could be part of a Social Democrat government's policy to get the economy moving and unemployment reduced, Mr Roy Jenkins said yesterday. Such a standstill might be acceptable for periods if people could see the economy picking up, Mr Jenkins contended, instead of the hopelessness at present when people naturally "will go for what they can get".

Mr Jenkins, interviewed on London Weekend Television's *Weekend World* programme, made clear, implicitly, that he was not making common cause with Mrs Margaret Thatcher's renewed call for sacrifice by those in work.

While he agreed that money wage increases might need to be below the rate of inflation, Mr Jenkins did not want that as a general proposition. He wanted to look at the overall level of demand, and was particularly concerned to advocate a great increase in public sector investment. He would not "propose to cure unemployment by pay policy", but would have his other expantionist measures buttressed by the most effective pay policy available.

Asked whether he would persuade or force the unions to accept his pay policy, Mr Jenkins suggested that if Social Democrats and Liberals broke the monopoly hold of the main parties, there might come a change of attitude. Union members might have a great desire to make their voices heard in the unions. It would mark an end to confrontation politics.

He also vigorously contested the Government's Budget policy of holding down public borrowing. This could not be done in a recession without destroying the welfare state, he said. It was like a car getting deeper and deeper into the mud.

He said the whole infrastructure was crying out for renewal; to finance new public investment the Government could both earmark North Sea oil revenue and allow borrowing to rise temporarily.

Expressing not dissimilar ideas on public sector investment schemes, like electrification of the railways and renewal of the sewerage and water systems, Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, said yesterday that "we would all agree that the sooner we get on with these schemes the better". Mr Prior is known to be impatient to see the Government support such ventures which, on present accounting methods, add to the PSBR.

There seemed little welcome for them, however, in Mrs Thatcher's resolute closing speech to the Conservative central council meeting in Cardiff on Saturday. Indeed, she seemed to spurn her dissenters in Cabinet, along with others, as faintheatts, saying: "This is the road I am resolved to follow. This is the path I must go. I ask all who have the spirit—the bold, the steadfast and the young in heart—to stand and join me as we go forward. For there is no other company in which I would travel."

She claimed that until she came to power "no one had the courage to stick at the remedy for long enough to allow it to work", and she specifically rejected the calls to stimulate demand.

The Prime Minister, for the first time in public, went out of her way to enthuse over Sir Geoffrey Howe's Budget. "Let us praise the *Chancellor for his* judgment", she said.

She said: "In the past our people have made sacrifices, only to find at the eleventh hour their government had lost its nerve and the sacrifice had been in vain. It shall not be in vain this time."

Mr Prior, interviewed on BBC Radio's *World this Weekend*, professed that he knew of no move in the Conservative Party to get rid of Mrs Thatcher as leader.

He said: "I want to see this government showing more care and understanding of the problems of people, particularly in the North of England." He added: "People in the Southeast often do not realize how difficult life is in the North."

SDP attacked: Attacks on the Social Democrats by both Labour and Conservative leaders continued at the weekend, with the Prime Minister in the van.

"What flag do they fly", she asked, echoing Mr Michael Foot, the Opposition leader, who has accused them of flying under false colours. "Is it Socialist, ex-Socialist, don't-tell-the-Liberals-I'm-a-Socialist, or I haven't-used-that-word-for-years Socialist", she said in mocking recent utterances by the "gang of four" when she spoke in Cardiff on Saturday.

For the Labour fight-back group, known as Labour Solidarity campaign, Mr Peter Shore, the shadow chancellor, was in anguished mood speaking at Tynemouth on Saturday. "It would be a dangerous self-deception if we did not accept first, their capacity to inflict for some time ahead, substantial damage on the Labour Party".

He added: "And, second; the possibility if we in the Labour Party continued to conduct our affairs in the self-damaging way of the last two years, to *mount a far more formidable* challenge."

From the grassroots: Ian Bradley talks to five converts to the Social Democrats' new party

In search of moderation and democracy



David Mason

The Rev David Mason, aged 54, a Methodist minister and community worker in Lewisham, was a member of the Labour Party for 37 years, a former county and borough councillor and a Labour parliamentary candidate in the last three elections.

His discontent with the Labour Party had been quietly rumbling away for the last two or three years. "I felt we could put our own house in order but the Wembley conference utterly disillusioned me.

"What has really pushed me out is the whole shift away from representative democracy and the attempt to mandate elected representatives by party caucuses. That to me is wholly alien."

He remains a socialist, although he accepts a working relationship with the Liberals.



James Evans

Mr James Evans, aged 51, a telephone engineer and the mayor of Islington, was a member of the Labour Party for 30 years and a councillor for 10. "I haven't left the Labour Party. The Labour Party has left me. The drift has gone to the extreme."

Both local and national factors have brought about his resignation from Labour. He cites, in particular, the imposition of a left-wing candidate in Islington, North, by the party's Greater London Regional Council, and the power given to trade unions in selecting the party leader.

Along with other moderate Labour councillors in Islington, he had already been black-listed by the party's local government committee so that he could not stand as an official Labour candidate in next year's borough council election.



Suzanne Jones

Suzanne Jones, aged 38, the Mayor of Bridgend, was a paid-up member of the Conservative Party for ten years, and a councillor for seven.

She has left the Conservatives because "I was getting *rather* tired of apologizing for the party I used to believe in".

She says that the party's economic policies were the main reason for her decision to leave, with the Budget being "the last straw". She also complains of the lack of support which she received as mayor from Tory councillors.

She was attracted to the Social Democrats because "there is not so much bureaucracy with them as with the other parties. They are not going to let the unions run the country. They are more in line with middle-of-the-road people".

On March 17 she became the first Social Democrat mayor in the country.



Jack Richardson

Mr Jack Richardson, aged 43, the owner of five launderettes in Whitley Bay, was a member of the Labour Party for 21 years, a founder of the National Organization of Labour Students, and a member of Newcastle City Council since 1974.

He says: "I have been feeling at odds with my colleagues in the Labour Party for some time. My allegiance got to breaking point when we got to this year's rents and rates rises."

After opposing the Labour group's proposal for rate increases, he says that he was expelled from the chairmanship of a workshop for the adult blind. "The ruling junta found me guilty, sentenced and executed me".

He hopes that the Social Democrats will end the "general immorality" of local government.



Christopher Cousins

Mr Christopher Cousins, ag[ed] 36, a solicitor in Weymou[th], joined the Labour Party at [...] and for two years until Feb[ru]ary was chairman of So[uth] Dorset Labour Party.

As a delegate to the 1[...] party conference he [...] "rudely awakened at the po[wer] that existed in the hands o[f a] dozen trade union leaders. Ja[nu]ary's Wembley conference [...] the last straw, since I tend [to] the view that parties should [be] run by their members".

Although the constitutio[nal] issue was the major reason [for] his leaving the Labour Pa[rty] he is also very unhappy ab[out] the proposals for further nat[ion]alization.

He believes that the [...] party provides "the first opp[or]tunity that someone like me [has] had to identify with a party [that] really represents my views. I [am] a social democrat".

Mr Powell's warning of a civil war under attack

By Our Political Editor

Mr Enoch Powell's renewed prophesy that a racial civil war in Britain could be avoided or limited only by a "re-emigration" of the coloured population, on the scale of the initial immigration, was yesterday castigated by Mr Roy Hattersley, Labour spokesman on home affairs, who accused Mr Powell of using "Munich beer hall language".

Mr Hattersley said yesterday that many politicians would be ashamed of Mr Powell. His speech would incite attacks on ethnic minorities who in turn *would fear that the Establish*ment would never accept them.

Mr Timothy Raison, Minister of State at the Home Office, is considering giving a rebuttal to Mr Powell's contentions when he appears at Tuesday's meeting of the Commons standing committee on the Nationality Bill.

Mr Hattersley added: "When he talks of re-emigration he is talking of the departure from Britain of families which were born here, educated here, and have known no other home. They are families which are legally British, black British, but no less British for that.

"There can be no question of their going home. They are home already", Mr Hattersley said at Birmingham Town Hall, which is near his constituency of Sparkbrook.

"What possible reason is there for supposing that the black child in my constituency will grow up as a threat to the ordered and stable society that we all want to see while the white child next door does not?

"There is no balanced, logical objective reason for talking of a black threat. Talk of civil war is lurid nonsense, the product of nothing more rational than Mr Powell's fervid imagination. But talking about it in the way he does has terrible effect."

Mr Powell, in a speech on Saturday to Young Conservatives at Ashton-under-Lyne, Greater Manchester, complained of the "conspiracy of silence" between Government and Opposition over the prospective growth through births here of the coloured population.

"'We have seen nothing yet' is a phrase that we could with advantage repeat to ourselves whenever we try to form a picture of that future", Mr Powell said. He challenged the Government to say whether it accepted that in the foreseeable future the proportion of the coloured population would be a third and more *in London and* other big cities.

Mr Powell said the blame for Parliament's failure to debate the question lay, too, with every voter "who dreads what I dread but who has failed to do what is in his power to take the first and indispensible step."

Mr Powell did not explain in his speech what that step was. However he told *The Times* later that he was referring to debating the matter, to the constituent's right to demand that his MP take it up.

By implication, he ridiculed the Government's tightened immigration policies because, through births in Britain, "the growth and spread of the New-Commonwealth-Pakistan population is as yet only at an early stage".

Mr Powell chose birth figures in Birmingham and Wolverhampton to assert that already "one third of the existing youngest generation" there was coloured.

Challenging the public mood which he detected as "it's too late to do anything", Mr Powell said he saw no reason to depart from his view, long held and expressed, "that at some point along the line of growth, absolute and proportionate, of the Commonwealth population in London and the other English cities affected, there lies the certainty of violence on a scale which can only adequately be described as civil war".

The most striking "ominous" feature of the current scene which Mr Powell detected was "the increase of deliberate attacks, both moral and physical, upon the police".

Mr Powell suggested that although "many in authority" were aware of the danger of "the outcome" only when "the reality of the danger is infinitely clearer and more imminent than now" might his proposed "re-emigration" be contemplated by any government.

Mr Powell's one proposal was that the citizens "make" their MPs talk. The Government must be challenged to refute the Powellite argument or accept it "and tell us what sort of a London, a Britain, a Parliament a nation this is going to be

Mr Hattersley challenged Mr Powell to say to the British-born: "Would he like them to re-emigrate to a country they have never seen, whose language they cannot speak and whose customs they have never known?" He said that any Pakistani mugged by skinheads "will believe that Mr Powell was in part responsible. . ."

"Hitler's way": Mr David Lane, chairman of the Commission for Racial Equality, said Mr Powell was really talking about the expulsion of large numbers of people (Lucy Hodges writes).

"That was the way of Hitler's Germany and Stalin's Russia, and is totally foreign to all *Britain's traditions of toleration* and humanity."

There were many encouraging developments in race relations, he said, and things were not helped by "Mr Powell's irresponsible intervention". He thought Britain would avoid serious racial violence, "but if ever it occurs, Mr Powell, with his lurid and inflammatory language, will bear heavy blame".

Miners want a say in coal board cash limits

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

The mining industry faces new trouble over what miners' leaders consider to be Cabinet attempts to rob them of the fruits of their victory over government financial policy on the National Coal Board.

The National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) insists on being involved in the setting of new, higher cash limits for the coal board of about £1,400m for 1981-82, more than £500m more than ministers planned before *last month's pit strike* threat.

But Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy, has sought to curtail the role of the miners to discussions on the two immediate issues that triggered widespread unofficial stoppages: pit closures and the *scaling-down of coal imports.*

Leaders of the NUM and the other two unions representing colliery deputies and management will make clear their keenness to take part in planning the overall financial framework of the coal board at a meeting of the industry's joint policy advisory committee tomorrow.

In the tripartite Government-coal board-union machinery set up by the Labour Government after the 1974 strike, which is less favoured by the Thatcher administration, the energy minister has agreed to state aid being provided to keep open the 23 pits originally threatened with accelerated closure and to finance substitution for imported coal.

But Mr Howell has insisted that all the other issues be dealt with in bipartisan dealings between his ministry and the coal board. They include state aid for financing coal stocks under EEC rules, subsidies for coking coal production, and the industry's enhanced cash limit for 1981-82.

The Government argues that it remains committed to the high-investment Plan for Coal agreed in 1974, but with the new financial year only two days off, the coal board has not yet been told how much capital it can spend on developing reserves.



Farewell kiss: The Prince of Wales and Lady Diana Spencer at Heathrow yesterday when the Prince left for a tour. Court Circular,page 14.

Accused MI6 officer's daughter makes plea to Mrs Thatcher

By Stewart Tendler

The daughter of Mr Charles Ellis, the former MI6 officer who was accused last week of spying for Nazi Germany and possibly the Russians, has written to the Prime Minister asking her to comment on the accusations.

According to Mr Chapman Pincher in his book, *Their Trade is Treachery*, published last week, Mr Ellis confessed to working for Germany when he was interrogated in 1965. He was second in command to Sir William Stephenson in coordinating British and American intelligence work during the Second World War.

Yesterday his daughter, who does not wish to be named, said that until Mr Ellis's death in 1975 he remained a close friend of many MI6 men. Her collection of his papers includes warm letters from Sir Maurice Oldfield, a former head of MI6, who died recently including one extending birthday greetings when Mr Ellis became 80.

The correspondence continued until shortly before Mr Ellis died and the service had made Mr Ellis a loan during his retirement.

His daughter, a widow, said: "It is curious Sir Maurice would have continued a friendly relationship when he (Mr Ellis) was 'in disgrace'. A numbe[r of] senior officers came to [my] father's funeral from the [ser]vice and I saw Sir Mau[rice] myself later."

She disputed a number of [the] events surrounding the "[con]fession" as described by [Mr] Pincher. In his book [Mr] Pincher said that Mr Ellis [had] gone home to Australia w[hen] MI5 investigations gath[ered] momentum, claiming to su[ffer] from heart trouble.

She was close to her fa[ther] at the time and said that he [did] have heart trouble and the [trip] was intended to be a short [...]

Mr Pincher wrote that [Mr] Ellis faced betrayal in Aust[ralia] because of a Russian defe[ctor] there and he reversed his pl[ans] returning to Britain ostens[ibly] to remarry.

His daughter said that [Mr] Ellis could not have given s[uch] an excuse, since he did [not] meet the woman he later m[ar]ried until he returned. He [was] passionately pro-American.

Mr Pincher said Mr Ellis [was] a close friend of Philby but [his] daughter disputes that.

A former member of MI5 [...] a close friend of the family [said] at the weekend that Mr E[llis] himself had told him of his [in]terrogation.

No mention was made of [a] confession.

Death after helmet protest

A motor cyclist aged 22 died in a road accident less than an hour after part in a protest against the law forcing motor cyclists to wear crash helmets.

Mr Tim Marsh, of Thorney Avenue, Fareham, Hampshire, was among 1,500 protestors who refused to wear helmets on an hour-long ride from Stokes Bay, near Gosport, to an open air meeting in Southampton.

He was killed instantly while returning home when his machine and a car collided near Fareham.

The police said it was not clear whether Mr Marsh was wearing his helmet when the crash happened.

Murder charge

An office fitter, aged 21, from Sheldon, Birmingham, was charged on Saturday with the murder of a woman whose body was found in the boot of a burnt-out car in Birmingham. He was also charged with causing criminal damage

Aircraft crashes

Two people were critic[ally] injured when a small jet [air]craft crashed at Luton airp[ort] last night, but seven oth[ers] escaped serious injury.

The aircraft, arriving fr[om] Lagos, crashed after oversh[oot]ing the runway.

Fuel savers fail to impress AA

By Peter Waymark
Motoring Correspondent

Motorists hoping to beat the budget petrol price increase by fitting fuel economy devices to their cars will probably be wasting their money, according to the Automobile Association.

The AA has records of more than 150 such devices but has yet to find one that justifies the claims made for it. None of the products tested by the AA under controlled conditions has given consistent fuel savings of more than 3 per cent.

It says that savings of that order are hardly worth having, *particularly when the motorist* has to pay up to £50 for the device. Similar, or greater, improvements would be obtained by maintaining the fuel and ignition systems in perfect order.

The AA is so sceptical of these devices that it will not consider them for its seal of approval scheme.

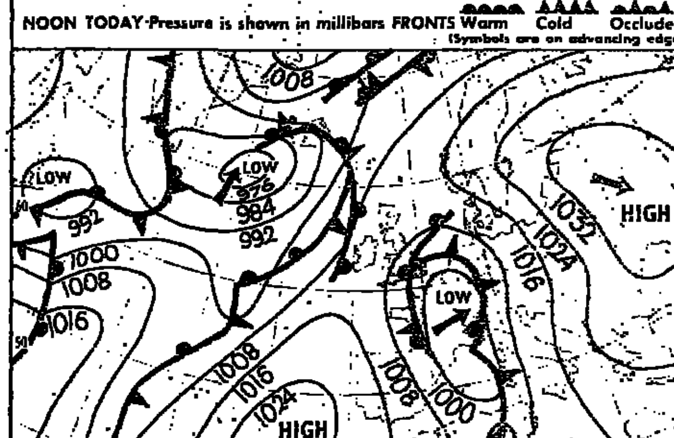
Mr A. W. Sims, the AA technical services manager, says motorists wanting more miles to the gallon should keep their cars properly tuned and drive them gently, "as though there is an egg under your right foot".

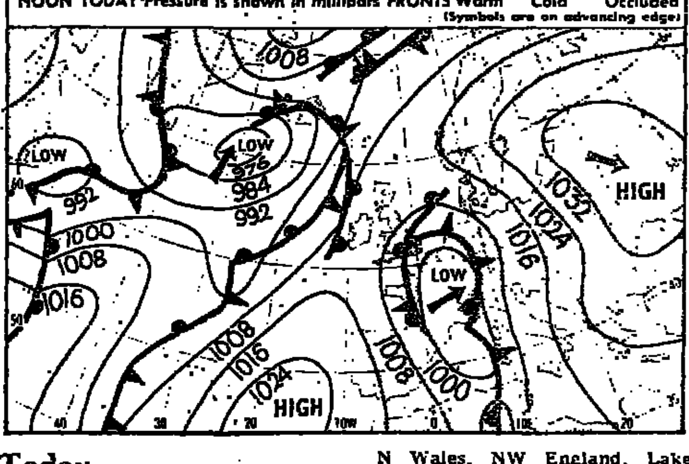
The need for greater economy is underlined by the latest AA estimate of motoring costs, compiled since the budget increase in petrol and vehicle excise duty. They suggest that a car in the one-litre to 1500 cc class driven 10,000 miles will now cost its owner £2,143 a year.

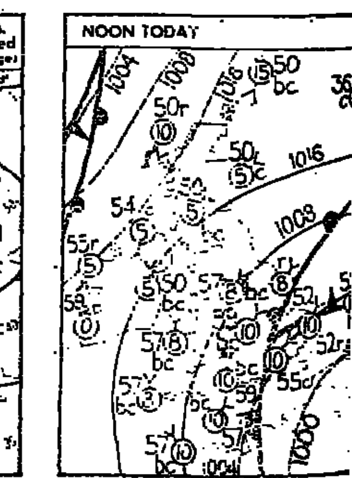
For a car between 1500 cc and two litres, the figure rises to £2,625 a year, and for a car in the two to three-litre class to £3,923. Even the smallest cars, those below 1000 cc, are now costing £1,884 a year to run.

The estimates take into account insurance, depreciation, petrol, servicing and repairs and the interest earned if the money which bought the car had been invested instead.

Weather forecast and recordings







Today

Sun rises: 6.41 am Sun sets: 7.30 pm

Moon rises: 4.05 am Moon sets: 12.48 pm

New moon: April 4.

Lighting up: 8.0 pm to 6.09 am. *High* water: London Bridge 9.05 am, 5.5m; 9.30 pm, 5.5m. Avonmouth 1.46 am, 9.6m; 2.29 pm, 9.6m. Dover 6.27 am, 4.9m; 7.24 pm, 5m. Hull 1.35 am, 5.5m; 2.13 pm, 5.6m. Liverpool 6.49 am, 7.1m; 7.34 pm, 7m. 1ft=0.3048m 1m=3.2808ft.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

Pressure will be low over S Britain with weakening troughs but a ridge of high pressure will persist over Scotland.

London, central S, central N and SW England, Midlands, Channel Islands, S Wales: Rather cloudy at first with patchy fog; sunny intervals; showers in places; wind N moderate; maximum temp 13° to 16°C (55° to 61°F).

East Anglia, SE and E England: Dull and misty near coasts; bright or sunny intervals in places; occasional showers, perhaps thunder; wind NE light to moderate; maximum temp 13° to 16°C 55° to 61°F).

N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland: dry; sunny periods; wind N light; maximum temp 13° to 15°C (55° *to* 59°F).

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: Dry; sunny periods but dull and misty near coasts; wind N or NE light; maximum temp 10° to 11°C (50° to 52°F). Colder near coasts.

Glasgow, central Highlands, Moray Firth, Argyl, N Ireland: Dry; early mist or fog patches; sunny periods; wind variable light: maximum temp 13° to 14°C (55° to 57°F).

NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Generally dry, sunny intervals in most places: wind S to SW moderate to fresh; Max temp 9° to 11°C (48° to 52°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Wednesday: Mostly dry tomorrow with sunny intervals but cloudier weather and some rain expected in W parts on Wednesday; Rather warm in many places.

Sea passages: S North Sea, Strait of Dover: Wind NE moderate or fresh, locally strong; sea moderate, locally rough.

English Channel (E): Wind N fresh to strong; sea rough.

St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind NE becoming variable light to moderate; sea slight.

Saturday

London: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 19°C (66°F); *min* 6 pm to 6 am 11°C (52°F). Humidity 6 pm, 55 per cent. Rain, 24 hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun, 24 hr to 6 pm, 10.1 hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm 1,00[...] millibars rising.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max 7 am to 7 pm, 14°C (57°F); min 7 pm to 7 am, 10°C (50°F). Humidity 7 pm, 84 per cent. Rain, 24 hr to 7 pm, 0.05 in. Sun, 24 hr to 7 pm, nil. Bar, mean sea level, 7 pm, 1,002.8 millibars rising.

1,000 millibars=29.53in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; th, thundrstorm.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	f	[illegible]	66	Cologne	c	16	61	Lisbon	r	13	55	New York	f	21	70
Algiers	c	17	63	Copenhgn	f	7	45	Locarno	r	9	48	Nice	r	13	55
Amsterdm	r	13	55	Dublin	c	6	43	London	r	12	54	Oslo	f	5	41
Athens	s	19	66	Edinburgh	s	10	50	Luxembrg	s	17	63	Paris	f	18	64
Barcelona	f	17	63	Florence	f	19	66	Madrid	r	9	48	Reykjavik	c	7	45
Beirut	s	18	64	Geneva	f	17	63	Majorca	c	18	64	Rome	s	18	64
Berlin	f	12	54	Gibraltar	f	17	63	Malaga	r	15	59	Stockholm	s	5	41
Bermuda	s	17	63	Guernsey	r	12	54	Malta	f	20	68	Toronto	r	14	57
Biarritz	f	16	61	Helsinki	f	1	34	Miami	f	25	77	Venice	c	13	55
Birmnghm	r	12	54	Innsbruck	f	18	64	Montreal	r	13	55	Vienna	f	13	55
Brussels	f	16	61	Istanbul	r	11	52	Moscow	f	-1	30	Warsaw	s	7	45
Budapest	s	14	57	Jersey	r	14	57	Munich	c	16	61	Zurich	s	15	59
Chicago	th	14	57	L Palmas	c	19	66	Naples	c	20	68				

Overseas selling prices
[illegible] Canada $1.50; UAE Dir [illegible]; Yugoslavia Din 40.

[illegible]
All subscription rates on request.

12 score the maximum in crosswords

By Edmund Akenhead
Crossword Editor

In the second regional final of the Langs Supreme-Times National Crossword Championship at the George Hotel, Edinburgh, yesterday, 12 of the 91 competitors achieved maximum puzzle points of 124 for the four crosswords, their order being determined by time bonus points.

The winner and regional champion was Mr Roger Hartill, a theatre business manager, of Edinburgh, who scored 82 time bonus points. The Rev Colin Morton, of Prestonpans, and Mr Charles Cruikshanks a schoolmaster, of Glasgow, were joint runners-up, each scoring 74 time bonus points, while fourth place was achieved by Mr Hugh Kilpatrick, with 73 time bonus points.

Prizes were presented by Mrs Lindsay Ramsey on behalf of Langs Supreme Scotch Whisky. The winner and joint runners-up will represent Edinburgh at the national final in September.

MP urged to resign

A call for the resignation of Mr Edward Lyons, QC, MP for Bradford, West, who left the Labour Party last week *to join* the Social Democrats, was made last night at the annual meeting of the constituency Labour Party.

Civil Service dispute will affect courts

By Our Labour Editor

Many civil and criminal courts in England and Wales will be affected this week as civil servants intensify their industrial action in pursuit of a 15 per cent pay claim and restoration of salary comparability machinery.

Court officers in a wide range of county and crown courts in all parts of Britain except London have been called out on strike for three or five days as part of the campaign of selective stoppages against Cabinet pay policy towards the Civil Service.

In addition, sheriff courts in Glasgow and Edinburgh will continue to be affected by strikes and the Council of Civil Service Unions (COCSU) is digging in for a long fight against the Government, Mr William Kendall, general secretary of COCSU, says in a letter to *The Times* that the Government's inactivity indicates "neither concern nor urgency".

Some travellers using Heathrow airport over the weekend missed their flights when immigration officers operated only a skeleton staff in support of the union pay campaign. Long queues built up in the largely domestic terminal 1 on Saturday and *in the* European terminal 2 yesterday.

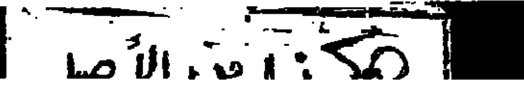
The court officers' action will disrupt crown courts in big provincial cities such as Sheffield and Newcastle, but the Central Criminal Court and the Law Courts in the Strand will not be affected, nor will magistrates' courts whose staff belong to a rival, non-TUC association which is not involved in the dispute.

In Cumbernauld yesterday, Mr Norman Hogg, Labour MP for East Dunbartonshire, East, demanded the dismissal of those responsible for what he called the "provocative" role of the Army in the dispute.

He has written to the Secretary of State for Defence and the Minister of State for the Civil Service, asking what connexion exists between the two departments in the dispute. "I want to know who gave authority for the use of the Milton Bridge Army training camp to handle mail addressed to the Inland Revenue at Cumbernauld. Whoever authorized this provocative action should be sacked."

Army explanation: On the Milton Bridge incident, the Army said: "No military staff were in any way involved with handling anybody's mail". The Army had received a request from the Property Services Agency for the temporary use of accommodation for another government department. That resulted in the loan of a hut at the training camp which was used last Wednesday for mail.

Letters, page 13



;ivil Service union faces political ;lash as left-wingers seek to ;verturn moderate appointments

;Paul Routledge
;our Editor

; political dispute has ;ken out inside the largest ;l Service union over ;ointments to senior jobs and ;new system of electing ;ional officials.

;eft-wing candidates for the ;s of deputy general secre-; and general treasurer of ; Civil and Public Services ;ociation are appealing to the ;on's annual conference in ;hton in May to overturn ;ointments recommended by ; moderate-dominated execu-;.

;he dispute has surfaced in ;ublished background papers ;pared for the association's ;ference which contain ;rges of "political motivation ;rmining the outcome of the ;ction process" and counter-;ges of "allegiances to cer-; groups".

;Ir Peter Thomason, a leading ;-winger, is appealing to ;gates to overthrow the ;cutive's decision to appoint ; moderate rival, Mr John ;s, as deputy general secre-;. He argues that "political ;cle and beliefs" made a ;tal mockery" of the selec-; process.

;is wife, Mrs Jean Thomason, ; asking the conference to ;ect the executive choice of ; John Raywood for general ;surer on the ground that ; selection committee had ;osed their minds" against ; candidature.

;he latest saga in the com-;x internal politics of the ;,000-member association is ;ther complicated by a ;kage of proposals from the ;cutive suggesting that the ;on's general secretary, deputy general secretary, general treasurer and assistant general secretary should be elected by a secret ballot of the entire membership.

Under the formula being put to the conference, anyone with five years' membership or service with the union could stand for those senior jobs, but the national executive reserves the right "if it so choses, using procedures which they think fit" to advise members for whom they should vote.

That reform package will be put first to the delegates at the conference, but informed opinion suggests that it will fail to win the required two-thirds majority to become part of the association's constitution.

Delegates will then be asked to adjudicate on the rancorous difference of opinion among the union's full-time officials. In the paper detailing the appeal of Mr Thomason, an assistant secretary of the union, the executive *says of his complaint* about "political motivations": "*He* has been involved in the association for a *number* of years and should, therefore, be well aware of the powerful *influences* which from time to time are brought to bear on its policies. He has benefited in the past from certain of these influences and should not now complain if those pressures are no longer influential."

In his appeal, Mr Thomason says of the ruling moderate faction: "I do not object to any group or faction using its political muscle and beliefs in terms of the policies they pursue, but I do object to them abusing their powers in selecting candidates for the senior professional posts within the union. This makes a total mockery of the application and interviewing procedures.

He also accuses his critics of waging a "discriminatory campaign" against himself and his wife ("We are a CPSA family") on the ground that a married couple should not be considered for senior posts.

In her appeal, Mrs Thomason, also an assistant secretary, says: "I also felt that a majority of the selection committee had already, prior to the interview, closed their minds to any other candidate than Mr Raywood." Mr Raywood acknowledges that the association is "a highly political union" but disavows "present or past allegiances to certain groups" in the union.

The left-right battle will also be joined over executive proposals for the election of full-time officers. After last year's conference carried, by a narrow majority on a card vote, a proposal *that the regular election* of full-time officials would be a step towards furthering democracy, the union's leaders have determined that there is "no overwhelming argument" for such a practice

Instead, they recommend that the four senior jobs be open for election, and if the conference rejects this policy, it is likely to go to a referendum of the membership.

"What we have proposed will not satisfy those who believe that all full-time officers should be subject to regular election", the executive paper concedes. "This we have rejected because trade union experience generally does not point in this direction but even more importantly such a system would not provide the stability and continuity of experience our union needs with its constantly changing membership."



Photograph by Keith Waldegrave

Mermaid opening: Lord Miles, founder of the Mermaid Theatre, outside the new exterior of the theatre as building workers try to complete the interior in time for the reopening in July (Martin Huckerby writes). While all the construction work has been completed, a large part of the fitting-out and equipping of the building has still to be done; the auditorium and stage are little more than a shell. Lord Miles said the theatre would be ready to reopen on July 7, although all the work on the building would not be finished by then. The Mermaid is being enlarged and partly rebuilt within a new office development on the site overlooking the Thames at Blackfriars, in the City of London. The size of the stage has been doubled and 110 extra seats have been added, as have spacious dressing rooms. Despite the additional seating, the Mermaid remains a relatively small theatre and its future will depend particularly on the size of subsidies from the Arts Council and the City of London Corporation. Lord Miles would not say how much had been offered for the opening season and discussions are *continuing about the exact amounts in the* hope that more money may be forthcoming. If the ambitious plans for the opening season are to be carried through successfully, the Mermaid must gain extra revenue by transferring productions into commercial theatres in the West End. Lord Miles said particular candidates were the American play, *Children of a Lesser God*, by Mark Medoff, the revival of the highly-successful comedy *Lock Up Your Daughters*, and the British premiere of Stephen Sondheim's musical, *Pacific Overtures*.

'Take me off the hook' appeal by Mr Biggs

By Michael Horsnell

Ronald Biggs, the fugitive train robber facing extradition proceedings in Barbados after his bizarre kidnapping in Brazil, is appealing for a pardon.

In his autobiography, published today, Mr Biggs, aged 51, says: "I think the time is long overdue for me to be taken off the hook".

The appeal coincides with the arrival in London yesterday of Mr Thorfinn Maciver, captain of the yacht which smuggled him out of Brazil. Mr Maciver, aged 25, from Edinburgh, who claims he did not know Mr Biggs was on board, said he was not worried by underworld threats to take revenge on the kidnappers.

He said: "I do not think the threats are directed at me. I was not involved. I just happened to be the skipper of the boat that they chartered."

In his book Mr Biggs says that in the 14 years since his escape from Wandsworth "nine were spent looking over my shoulder to see if Old Bill was lurking behind.

"Only someone who has been a fugitive from justice as I have been all these years can know the torture of uncertainty and insecurity that this existence brings."

He adds: "I most certainly have been punished for my crime and punished in plenty. What is the point of putting me back in Wandsworth? To rehabilitate me—but I am rehabilitated totally."

Admitting that he misses England, for its Mars bars, jellied eels, tea and beer, he says his longing is not so great that he would give himself up to serve the 28 years remaining of his 30-year sentence.

Mr Maciver, who said he had returned to London to "sort out some business" about the hire of the yacht, said he was paid the normal charter fee of $3,000 a week but did not know who was the paymaster in the Biggs kidnapping.

"I was paid by my usual agents but I do not know where the money came from", he said. "The first thing I knew was when they presented Biggs to me just after we left Brazil. I was flabbergasted".

During the trip to Barbados damage was caused to the boat which could have forced them to return to Brazil.

He said: "There was a mystery electrical failure which cut the power and then water poured in through the bilges but I spotted both faults and they were repaired. I am reluctant to say it was definitely Biggs but a lot of equipment was easy to get at and he was not really held captive. Most of the time he spent on the deck sunning himself".

Former wife writes: Mr Biggs's former wife said on Saturday that she was waiting to hear from him and might join him in England. (Douglas Aiton writes from Melbourne.)

Mrs Charmain Brent, who lives in the Melbourne suburb of Doncaster with her two sons, Christopher, aged 18, and Farley, aged 14, made a statement after Mr Biggs was reported as saying in Barbados that he wanted to remarry her.

The statement read: "Of course we are concerned about Ron's welfare. We are still his family. If he wants a reassessment of our feelings for each other, we will have to meet again. I hope this will be soon."

Ronald Biggs. My Own Story (Michael Joseph, £7.95).

Leading article, page 13

Jobs growth factor in brewery site inquiry

By Our Planning Reporter

A public inquiry begins tomorrow into plans to redevelop the former Courage Brewery site in the centre of Reading. Its outcome will be of more than local interest and could have a significant effect on future population and employment growth in south and south-east England.

The site occupies some 14 acres on either side of Bridge Street, adjoining the River Kennett. On the larger west side, Courage plans to add 80,000 sq ft to their existing offices and to sell the rest for housing and recreational use.

It is the land on the east side that is the subject of controversy. Courage has applied to build 247,500 sq ft of offices for sale, but Reading District Council has refused to give permission for more than 100,000 sq ft, on the grounds that anything larger would constitute overdevelopment and would go against its policy of restraining office growth in the town.

Mr Peter Oswald, of Savilles, the estate agents who are advising on the project, insists that 100,000 sq ft would be hopelessly uneconomic.

"If we do not get the go-ahead, the council will lose all the amenities which we have proposed, a leisure centre, a riverside walk, paths to connect the town centre with the river and so on, and the site will just become more and more derelict.

According to Mr Oswald, negotiations are in an advanced stage with Trafalgar House, which wants to undertake the development. He has no doubts about being able to let the space.

South of a line from Bristol to London, demand for office and, in some cases, factory space is still remarkably high, despite the recession, he says. "This is where the new technological industries all want to move to, and we are not grasping the opportunities.

"Several of the Conservatives on the council have said it is time Reading faced the fact that it is a strategically important town. But it is the Liberals and Labour who are doing the blocking."

The council's attitude has undoubtedly been conditioned by its fury at the county council's decision to give itself permission for 350,000 sq ft of speculative offices on the site of its former headquarters. That is all the more ironic in view of the fact that the county has strongly resisted attempts by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, to make provision for an extra 70,000 households by 1990.

;IP opposes ;ension tax ;n widows

;Pat Healy
;ial Services
;respondent

;he Prime Minister has been ;ed to take steps to stop ;ows and single women aged ;ween 60 and 64 having to ; tax on their retirement and ;duated pensions for the first ;e.

;r Jeffrey Rooker, Labour ; for Birmingham, Perry ;r, and spokesman on social ;urity, says in a letter ;eased today that he is sure ;was unintentional that they ;uld be caught in the tax net ; result of the Budget.

;he anomaly has been created ; the decision to freeze per-;l tax allowances. Treasury ;isters have conceded in par-;ientary answers to Mr ;ker that it will mean women ;he 60 to 64 age group having ;ay tax on incomes composed ;ly of national insurance re-;ment and graduated pen-;s.

;omen pensioners over the ; of 65 will not be caught in ;imilar trap, since they are ;tled to the higher age tax ;wance.

;r Rooker points out in his ;r that the women affected ;be "in the quite ludicrous ;tion" of having a tax liabi-; of between 55p and 57p a ;k if they have a graduated ;sion of 33p a week. The ;nated average graduated ;sion for women aged 60 to ;his November will be 57p ;ek.

;any widows will not have ;pay tax even though the ;get changes will mean their ;mes bring them above the ; threshold. They will be ;ected by the Inland Reve-; tolerance under which ;l amounts of tax are not ;cted. But those drawing ;uated pensions because of ; extra contributions will ; their incomes brought ;e the £100 taxable income ;ance level.

;r Rooker says he can well ;ve that no one drew the ;tion of Mrs Margaret ;cher, the Chancellor of the ;equer or the Secretary of ; for Social Services, to the ;culty when the Budget was ;g drafted because of the ;plexity of the social security ;m

Families spending less on food, survey finds

By Hugh Clayton
Agriculture Correspondent

A Government survey published today suggests that the recession is forcing families to cut their spending on food. The latest National Food Survey shows that households ate less beef, butter and bacon last year than in 1979, and bought more cheese, margarine and breakfast cereals.

Consumption of beef throughout 1980 was the lowest since 1976. By the end of last year demand for margarine exceeded that for butter for the first time for almost 25 years.

While the cost of food rose by 9½ per cent in the 12 months to the end of 1980, the amount spent on it by British families increased by only 8 per cent. The survey of almost 2,000 households showed that average weekly spending a head on food fell last year from £7.36 late in the summer to £7.25 by the end of the year.

That is greater than the usual seasonal drop in the second half of the year, and is attributable partly to the good fruit and vegetable harvest on farms and in home gardens. But the survey also suggests that householders were trying to cut their shopping bills by reducing purchases of items that appeared to be costly when compared with alternatives.

The survey shows that families spent less on bacon, lamb, pork and meat pies in the winter than late in the summer.

Independent market research suggests that while the recession is forcing families to change their eating habits, there is still an underlying trend away from traditional dietary patterns.

Dr Elizabeth Nelson, managing director of the Taylor Nelson market research company, said that eating habits were being shaped by the growing number of single-person and single-parent households, and by a desire to eat more fresh and exotic foods.

Special report on food, inset

Go-ahead for merger talks between media unions

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Staff

The National Union of Journalists' executive voted yesterday to give qualified approval to future merger discussions with the printing industry's main craft union, the National Graphical Association.

It thereby cleared the way in principle for formal discussions with the NGA in an emergency resolution recalling the *NUJ's policy in favour of a* single union for the media.

At the same time, however, the executive approved an addendum insisting on prior talks to resolve what it defines as a serious breakdown in communications with the NGA and calling for a "picket pact".

That addendum is understood to have been passed by the NUJ's executive committee despite the opposition of Mr Kenneth Ashton, the union's general secretary, Mr Francis Beckett, the outgoing president, and Mr Harry Conroy, his expected successor, who are said to take the view that it could hamper the progress of merger talks.

Both recommendations will go forward to the union's annual delegate meeting this week in Norwich.

In the event of a positive outcome to talks on liaison between the two unions, the possibility of formal merger discussions remains alive.

The characteristically ambiguous stance in which yesterday's two resolutions leave the 32,000 members of the NUJ reflects tension between the union's leading officials and an uneasy alliance between the right-wing and left-wing militants.

In executive elections to be announced today, Mr Mark Khan and Mr Gabriel Bowman were elected for Central London branch, and Mr Anthony Craig was reelected to represent the London Freelance branch.

Dean backs Lennon peace festival

From Our Correspondent
Liverpool

The Dean of Liverpool, the Very Rev Edward Patey, yesterday rebuked fellow churchmen who criticized the Anglican Cathedral's festival of peace in memory of John Lennon, the former Beatle, who was shot dead in New York last December.

Protests were sent to Buckingham Palace and the Archbishop of Canterbury about the cathedral's decision to hold the festival. They claimed that Lennon led people away from religion and criticized him for taking drugs.

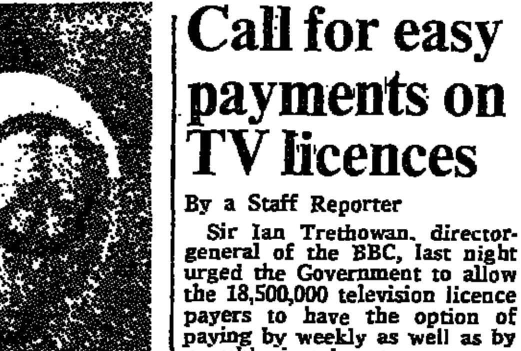
In an address to the congregation of two thousand at the *ticket-only festival the Dean spoke in favour of the musician,* who was born in Liverpool.

He said: "Some people tried to stop us having this service. John Lennon, they said, was a bad influence on a whole generation with his drugs, sex and his disrespect of authority. I suspect they also did not like him because he was successful, because he was rich and because he was young.

"Even if all they said of him was true, I still believe it is a right and good thing that we do in this cathedral. For this building is dedicated in honour of Jesus Christ who was always more ready to side with the off-beat and the way out than the respectable and the orthodox."

Tape recordings of Lennon's songs "Imagine" and "Revolution" were played and the St George Singers sang "The Fool on the Hill", "Eleanor Rigby" and "Yesterday".

A rival festival in the city organized by Mr Alan Williams, the former manager of the Beatles, attracted more than two thousand people. It was staged at the Cavern Club site, in Matthew Street, where the Beatles once stayed.



Photograph by David Jones

A balloon for peace in the cathedral.

Call for easy payments on TV licences

By a Staff Reporter

Sir Ian Trethowan, director-general of the BBC, last night urged the Government to allow the 18,500,000 television licence payers to have the option of paying by weekly as well as by monthly instalments.

With the BBC's drive for a £50 annual colour licence fee in mind, Sir Ian told listeners to Radio Luxembourg that that would mean £1 a week or just over £4 a month.

Sir Ian said the BBC attached enormous importance to allowing payment in smaller amounts. "The way the public pays for independent television, which is through the supermarket checkout, is so much less painful", he said.

He rejected demands that Radio 1 should be run by commercial operators.

"Radio 1 is of special importance because it is the one point in the BBC's output at which we consistently meet young people.

Stronger protection for moorland has been resisted

Countryside Bill for Lords today

By John Young
Planning Reporter

Having survived, resisted or admitted more than 550 amendments, the Government's Wildlife and Countryside Bill receives its third reading in the House of Lords today. It is likely to be introduced in the Commons before Easter, despite doubt over the extent to which members of the lower house will find the time or energy to try to unravel what their lordships have, over many weeks, put together.

On the more contentious issues, the Government has settled for what can best be described as a favourable draw. It has successfully overruled attempts to give stronger protection to moorland and to outstanding beauty spots, referred to, in rather unhappy jargon, as "sites of special scientific interest".

It was defeated on the question of footpath closures, and on the so-called Sandford amendment, which deals with the possible withholding of agricultural grants, something that could prove to have far reaching effects.

The Bill, initially regarded as a sideshow to the Government's main legislative programme, has aroused deep feelings among landowners and farmers, who see their way of life threatened by bureaucracy, and on the other hand, among a surprisingly large part of the general public concerned for the protection of the familiar character and appearance of the countryside.

One man who is not surprised at the intensity of the debate is Mr Robin Grove-White, the newly appointed director of the Council for the Protection of Rural England. He believes that the public concern is genuine, and he rejects any idea that the conservationalist lobby has been motivated by dislike of wealthy landowners.

The main point of issue between conservationists and the farming-landowning lobby has been on the question of compulsory powers. The Government remains committed to the belief that the best way of protecting sites of special scientific interest is through voluntary agreements with the owners.

Neither side sees compulsion as the best answer. Both appear to believe that there is a common ground which can be reached, without what Mr James Douglas, director general of the Country Landowners Association, refers to as a potential new bureaucracy.

He says: "Do you discipline 95 per cent of farmers and landowners for the sake of the 5 per cent renegades who feel they please? I do not think it can be part of a landowner's philosophy to be anti-conservationist. It is incompatible with the true interests of landowning."

Mr Barney Holbeach, parliamentary secretary of the National Farmers' Union, is reluctant to forecast whether voluntary agreements will work. "It is up to the Nature Conservancy Council, but we are prepared to be cooperative."

"Landowners on Exmoor are, on the whole, very conscientious people", he maintains. "If anyone steps out of line, the others will come down on him like a ton of bricks."

One of the main stumbling blocks, he says, has been the lack of adequate compensation for farmers who agree not to put moorland under the plough. But, after 18 months of negotiation, agreement has now been reached, and the details are to be published next week.

The CPRE has been closely involved in the Exmoor dispute, and Mr Grove-White still regrets that the Bill does not provide for compulsory moorland conservation orders.

Even if the Exmoor agreement is successful, many other upland areas of England and Wales remain threatened, he says.

;il for former ;ldier on ;sault charge

;hn Miller, aged 35, a for-; soldier, who returned from ;ados to face an assault ;ge, was released on bail by ;Marlborough Street magi-;e in London on Saturday. ;was remanded until April ;nd ordered to live at his ; in Kensington.

; Miller is accused of caus-;ctual bodily harm to Ross ;bolt at Mortons, a West ; club, on December 6.

First World War film in project to save newsreels

By Kenneth Gosling

A scheme to preserve large quantities of newsreel material shot by two of the biggest companies, Pathé and Movietone, has been started by the British Film Institute for the National Film Archive.

The first dozen cans of Pathé material, dating from the end of the First World War and featuring the victory parade and the Versailles treaty, has arrived at the institute and represents the first batch in what will be a programme in the first year of converting 50,000 feet of unstable nitrate film on to safety stock. That is about 10 per cent of the Pathé collection of about five million feet.

Mr Roger Whitney, the institute's documentary films officer, explained that the archive's resources were stretched in dealing with the present nitrate conversion programme which is planned to continue until the end of the century.

Mr Athony Smith, director of the institute, said in a speech last Wednesday that the huge collections of Pathé and Movietone would eventually become someone's responsibility to preserve. "We are deeply worried about the future of these", he said.

Mr Whitney said that in terms of the main programme, they could make only a tiny dent in an enormous library such as Pathé's. "There is cooperation between them as a commercial library and ourselves to ensure that it does get preserved. They will lend the originals and pay for any copies that we make for them."

In parallel with the institute's scheme, there would be a similar project by the Imperial War Museum which will process film shot during the two world wars. The museum has about thirty million feet from various sources, but Mr Clive Coultass, keeper of the film department, said the Pathé stock would help to fill gaps in the collection.

Newsreels started to disappear from the cinemas in the late 1950s

Pupils 'leaving school early' because of benefit rules change

From Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent
Sheffield

Thousands of 16-year-old pupils who had intended to take public examinations this summer, had decided to leave early because of government changes in the supplementary benefit rules, the Secondary Heads Association said yesterday.

Mr Donald Frith, general secretary of the association, which represents three fifths of the heads of secondary schools, said that the union had made strong representations to Lady Young, Minister of State for Education and Science, about the changes. They meant that a pupil who left school in the summer term would no longer be able to start receiving benefit, if unemployed, until September 1, instead of immediately after leaving school as had been the case for summer leavers, and was still the case for Easter leavers.

The association had warned the minister that that would act as an incentive to pupils who reached their sixteenth birthday before January 31, to leave at the end of the Easter term, as they were entitled to do, rather than stay on to take CSE examinations. But Lady Young had said she did not believe there was a problem.

Now the association had clear evidence from early returns to a survey of all its members that pupils were leaving early as a result of the changes. The number so far ranged from one pupil in one school to 25 in another, all of whom had intended to take CSEs.

Many parents were still unaware of the changes. It was a real dilemma for heads whether to tell them, and risk their withdrawing their children before the examinations, or not to tell them, and risk a net loss to the family of more than £200 in benefit over the five months from April to September.

An unemployed 16-year-old is eligible for £15.25 a week, if the family is not already receiving supplementary benefit.

Mr Frith, who was speaking before the opening of the association's annual meeting in Sheffield, said he expected that many more children would be induced to leave school early next year when the rule change became more widely known.

Mrs Molly Hattersley said in her presidential address to nearly 400 head teachers last night that the Government was exhorting schools to do more to prepare young people for working life, but the prospect of unemployment now facing many pupils was having a debilitating effect on their school work.

"The children most directly affected are those whose doubts about their own capabilities, often reinforced by the value judgments of others, weakened their motivation at the best of times. If they see no place for them in the world of work, they will see little point in preparing for it."

The association had long supported the introduction of maintenance grants for 16- to 19-year-olds who remained in full-time education, but that had been ruled out in the recent report of the committee of inquiry, chaired by Mr Neil Macfarlane, under secretary of State for Education and Science.

"One must ask whether it is wise for a country which is seeking economic regeneration at a time of unparalleled change, to look for short-term savings by reducing its investment in the talents and abilities of those whose skills, aptitudes and enthusiasm are essential to its future prosperity and stability."

Recruitment plea: The National Association of Head Teachers yesterday urged the Government to extend its scholarship scheme for recruiting urgently needed mathematics and science teachers to include other under-staffed school subjects (the Press Association reports).

Rise in young jobless may overtake plans

By Mark Jackson
of The Times Educational Supplement

Youth unemployment is threatening to overtake the big expansion of the schemes for the young jobless that the Government has authorized for this year. Officials in charge of the programme fear that it may have to find room for nearly 500,000 young people in the next 12 months.

The Manpower Services Commission has been given nearly £270m to provide for up to 440,000 entrants to its youth opportunities programme in the financial year which is just beginning. But its regions say they will need to accommodate at least another 40,000.

The commission's senior officials have told its special programmes board that that may be an underestimate. But they give a warning that the Government is unlikely to allocate any more money yet so the programme and may not do so even if the worst fears turn out to be justified. That means they fear that a full-scale expansion might mean heavy cuts later in the year.

The board is recommending the Manpower Services Commissioners to increase the programme to 450,000 entrants now and to plan for a big emergency expansion.

That would repeat the pattern of the past 12 months during which 324,000 young people have passed through the programme, nearly half as many again as were originally authorized.

Mr Paisley plans new campaign

From a Staff Reporter
Belfast

The Rev Ian Paisley concluded his "Carson trail" rallies on Saturday with a march by 30,000 people to Stormont.

It was a more impressive turnout than most of the organizers had expected. The series of 11 rallies throughout Northern Ireland during the past seven weeks against the Dublin-London dialogue has not drawn large crowds by Ulster standards.

Mr Paisley's campaign was given a fillip last week by Mr Brian Lenihan, the Irish Foreign Minister, who said there could be Irish unity in five or 10 years.

Mr Paisley said he plans another phase in his campaign but would not give details. He told his supporters: "I have a plan and I am going to put it into operation. You will be called on to make the necessary sacrifices so that it will not fail."

Mr Paisley's next big test will be the local elections in May, in which he hopes to establish himself as the most popular Protestant leader in the province.

He told the crowd on Saturday that he had information of a British plot to kill him. If he did not die at the hands of republicans, he had left a letter with his lawyer containing details of "the British Government plan to get rid of me". However, he thought that God would save him.

Nationalist split vote seems likely

From a Staff Reporter
Belfast

Nominations close today for the Fermanagh and South Tyrone by-election and it looked last night as though the nationalist vote would be split three, and possibly four, ways.

Unless there is a quick agreement to reduce the number of contenders, the chances of Mr Robert Sands, the IRA hunger striker, being elected are extremely remote.

Mrs Bernadette McAliskey is standing aside in favour of Mr Sands but Mr Noel Maguire, brother of the late pro-republican MP, seems determined to remain in the contest on April 9 as an independent.

The Social Democratic and Labour Party candidate is Mr Austin Currie, a former chief whip who fought the seat in May 1979 as an independent SDLP contender. The intentions of the Irish Independence Party are still not clear.

There is growing doubt whether the Democratic Unionist Party will nominate a candidate. The Official Unionists' choice is Mr Harold West.

General election:

Maguire, M. F.	(Ind)	22,398
Ferguson, R.	(Off UU)	17,411
Currie, A.	(SDLP)	10,785
Baird, E.	(UUUP)	10,607
Acheson, P.	(Alliance)	1,070

Three arrested: Three men were in police custody yesterday after a Roman Catholic was shot four times in the back and shoulder at Markethill, co Armagh, on Saturday night. His condition is described as comfortable.

Ulster troops damaging to Britain, Mr Haughey says

Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish Prime Minister, was quoted yesterday as saying that Britain's military presence in Northern Ireland was damaging its world standing.

Mr Haughey, due in Bonn for talks with West German leaders today, told the magazine Der Spiegel that the presence of 11,000 British troops in Northern Ireland was "a financial burden for the British and unquestionably does their standing in the world no good".

The British public and some of the political establishment were increasingly reluctant to go on bearing the cost, he said.

"For me there is no doubt that the overwhelming majority of the British population would welcome a solution to the problem of Northern Ireland", Mr Haughey was quoted as saying.

Asked about the results of his Dublin talks with Mrs Margaret Thatcher last December, he said joint British-Irish working groups were studying ways of bridging their differences on Northern Ireland.

Mr Haughey said Dublin had always considered Ireland to be a single natural, economic, social and cultural unit but he recognized that Mrs Thatcher had different views on some points.

"The working groups will give a good indication whether we can bring the differing tendencies under one hat", he was quoted as saying.

Polish crisis stops US lifting Soviet grain embargo

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, March 29

Contrary to his earlier plans, President Reagan has decided not to abandon the Soviet grain embargo.

In a long interview with The Washington Post published here today, the President said that the delicate situation in Poland as well as other aspects of international affairs were such that he did not see "where we could lift it (the embargo) without sending a wrong signal".

He conceded that he opposed the introduction of the embargo when it was introduced a year or so ago by President Carter and said that he would dearly love to be in a position to be able to lift it.

On the escalating crisis in Poland, Mr Reagan said that the provision of emergency food aid as requested by the authorities in Warsaw would be contingent on what happened there in the coming days.

"I think our relationship with the Polish people we have made plain" he said, "and we would like to be of help to them". This had been the general view of the United States since the independent trade union movement, Solidarity, had embarked on its campaign to secure better working conditions for the Polish people last year, he added.

"But answering that appeal would be a lot easier for us if the Polish Government does not take some drastic military steps against their own people".

Asked whether there was anything that the United States could or should do if the Polish people were suppressed by their rulers, the President said that that would have an effect on our relationship with Poland, and our allies.

"We have all—and we're worked in a concerted way on this—made it plain that any imposition on the freedom of the people of Poland, whether internally or, and certainly if it is outside by the Soviet Union, is going definitely to have an impact on our relationship. So we are watching this very carefully."

Turning to other aspects of the relationship between Washington and Moscow Mr Reagan said that he was quite sure that there would be a summit meeting between himself and President Brezhnev. It was, however, far too early for such a meeting.

"I haven't said no. I have just said that it is down the road a bit", he said.

Mr Reagan said that the meeting would not take place until all of America's allies had been fully consulted and the meeting fully prepared. "You don't just decide to have a meeting and sit down and say what do we talk about", he said.

In response to another question about Soviet behaviour, Mr Reagan said that in a nine-page letter to him Mr Brezhnev had recently made it plain that he wanted to discuss all aspects of East-West relations. In return, he had made it clear that he believed that such talks should not be restricted only to arms limitation issues.

"I think the whole matter of the imperialism of the Soviet Union, their expansionism, must be a subject for this, for discussion. Are they going to continue exploiting where there are differences and where there is trouble? Or are they going to continue this massive build-up of weaponry which is the greatest that any nation has ever made in all the world?

"Or are they willing to sit down and talk about how we can eliminate the difference reduce the threshold of dang from strategic weapons, pect the right of people to se determination in their co tries and so forth?" Mr Reag asked rhetorically.

"And we are willing to to to them. The Secretary of St has met with their ambassa here and we are not slammi a door on them. We are going to be realistic."

Asked whether he had ceived any signal or feel that Moscow wanted to be conciliatory in the future, Reagan said that he had see "nothing other than their ob ous desire is to get back discussions and meeting w us".

Washington family row blows over for a while

From David Cross
Washington, March 29

President Reagan has made it clear that he regards as a successfully resolved family dispute last week's damaging controversy between Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, and the White House over future control of the Administration's foreign policy in a crisis.

In an interview with The Washington Post published today the President conceded that there had been some confusion between the White House and Mr Haig about who would head the so-called crisis management committee.

In the ensuing power struggle the task of taking control of the Administration's crisis planning went to Mr George Bush, the Vice-President, rather that to the domineering Secretary of State.

Mr Reagan told The Washington Post that as far as he was concerned everything had been resolved "peacefully and we are all very happy". There had certainly never been any policy disagreement between the White House and Mr Haig, he said.

Asked whether Mr Haig would stay on in the Administration, the President said: "Certainly, as far as I am concerned and I think as far as he is concerned, yes." He said he considered the whole unfortunate episode as closed.

The President's assessment of the present relationship between the White Houe and Mr Haig appears to coincide closely with the views of the Secretary of State.

After complaining bitterly to his advisers about his loss of power to the Vice-President, Mr Haig told a Congressional committee last week after the decision had been taken that it was time "to get on with the substance" of foreign policy and not to worry about its form.

All last week the American newspapers and television news programmes were full of reports about the power struggle which was seen by observers as the first big internal crisis for the new Administration.

Mr Haig was reported to have muttered several times about resigning his post but apparently changed his mind when he realized that such a gesture would be futile.

It has always been abundantly clear to all here that Mr Haig has an immense ego and since becoming Secretary of State he has made much of his position as "vicar" of President Reagan's foreign policy. He discovered last week, however, that his parish was somewhat smaller than he had thought.

The publicity which Mr Haig has managed to generate over foreign policy, particularly East-West relations, has upset some of Mr Reagan's closest and most senior advisers in the White House.

They believe that the Administration's most pressing task is to set the economy back on the path to recovery and that too much emphasis on foreign policy issues during its early days could distract the attention of Congress from the President's economic programme.

For the time being, Mr Haig appears to have bowed to the inevitable by accepting Mr Bush's new role. But it would come as no surprise here if his forceful character and his own high opinions of himself do not produce further embarrassing clashes with the White House.

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Mr Lech Walesa, the Solidarity leader, attending church with his secretary before yesterday's crucial talks.

Bishop Tutu passport may be held

From Ray Kennedy
Johannesburg, March 29

A threat by Mr Pieter Botha, the South African Prime Minister, to have the passport of Bishop Desmond Tutu, the black secretary-general of the South African Council of Churches, withdrawn as soon as the bishop returns from abroad, is being seen as a potentially serious setback to the Reagan Administration's cautious moves towards a rapprochement between Washington and Pretoria.

The bishop, who is in Britain, is a fiery critic of apartheid. In a speech to the United Nations Special Committee on Apartheid in New York last week, he described the South African system as one of "the most vicious since Nazism" and said that a third world war would break out unless apartheid was ended within 40 years.

At Welkom, a gold mining town in Orange Free State on Friday night, Mr Botha addressed one of the biggest meetings of the general election campaign, attended by more than 2,000 people.

Before an audience of miners, probably the most volatile section of the South African white electorate, Mr Botha could hardly say he was going to ignore the bishop's remarks. "As far as I am concerned", he said, the bishop's passport would be withdrawn when he returned to South Africa.

Bishop Tutu, who has been nominated for the 1981 Nobel Peace Prize, had his passport withdrawn last April after a visit to Denmark where he had advocated economic sanctions against South Africa. The passport was restored earlier this year.

It has been suggested that if South Africa takes action against Bishop Tutu, black African states will use the incident to try to persuade the United States to distance itself from Pretoria.

Reagan policy review allays some black African fears

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, March 29

President Reagan and his foreign policy advisers have completed the first stage of their review of southern Africa and to the great relief of most black African nations it will probably not tilt as strongly towards South Africa as once feared.

In a statement published last night, the White House announced that a high level delegation of Administration officials led by Mr Chester Crocker, President Reagan's nominee as assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, would visit countries in southern Africa towards the end of this week.

The delegation's trip was "an effort to meet with as many parties as we can", the statement said. "We have discussed our policy with our allies and saw this as an opportunity to extend our discussions."

According to well-informed Administration officials here, the delegation will visit all five African front-line states, including Mozambique and Angola, as well as South Africa.

It will continue to seek an internationally acceptable formula for ending South Africa's control of Namibia while at the same time seeking a dialogue with Pretoria, to bring about racial change in that country.

In an interview with The Washington Post published today, President Reagan said that the whole subject of Africa was "of great concern" to his Administration. "We want to continue our friendship with the emerging African states, the black African states.

"I realize there are also some that have a chip on their shoulder towards us. We would like a better understanding with them and we are going to take steps to bring that about.

"This does not mean in any way that we do not look forward to a continued friendship with South Africa and I think to be helpful to them in their problems with apartheid. There are many things there, it's a repugnant thing to us but on the other hand we had our own experience in this country with an apartheid that was just as ugly".

On Namibia, Mr Reagan said that his Administration wanted to see a peaceful solution there.

Mr Ishaya Audu, the Nigerian Foreign Minister, who met Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, in Washington last week, was apparently reassured by what he was told.

Other straws in the wind during the last few days have also allayed some of the fears of the black African nations. The White House announced on Friday that it would be sending Mr George Bush, the Vice-President, as the head of the United States delegation to a conference on the plight of African refugees.

It is sponsored by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and will be held in Geneva on April 9 and 10.

The administration has also approved a large increase in development aid for Zimbabwe and has apparently managed to persuade Mr Jonas Savimbi, head of Unita—the last anti-communist guerrilla group in Angola—to postpone a visit to Washington.

Black African nations feared that Washington might be about to resume aid to Mr Savimbi and his followers who are trying to unseat the pro-soviet government in Luanda.

Pretoria may protest over air shooting

From Our Correspondent
Johannesburg, March 29

South Africa is expected to deliver a strong diplomatic protest to the Mozambique Government after an incident in which Mozambican troops fired on and hit a South African civilian light aircraft flying low near the border.

According to a South African account, the single-engined Cessna 310, with four people, including the pilot, on board, was circling low near the Lebombo border post on Friday before landing for customs clearance. The Cessna was flying from Maputo, the Mozambique capital, to Nelspruit in Transvaal.

As the border post it came under fire from the Mozambique side and bullets narrowly missed the fuel tank, shattered instruments, and a piece of metal embedded itself in one of the passenger's shoes. According to witnesses, the aircraft only managed to land safely because of the skill of Mr Henk Schimmelpenning, the pilot.

Mr Dan Pienaar, the general manager of the charter company which owns the aircraft, said police on the South African side of the border had seen the attack "but they didn't lift a finger to stop the outrage".

Tension on the Mozambique border has escalated since late January when a South African Army column attacked the headquarters of the outlawed South African National Council near Maputo, 50 miles inside Mozambique territory.

This weekend talks opened in Maputo between a delegation of Soviet officials and the Mozambique People's Assembly.

Man who shot thief given suspended sentence

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, March 29

A two-year suspended prison sentence was imposed yesterday on a man who shot dead a thief he caught stealing paving stones from his warehouse. The court at Aix-en-Provence showed it accepted the defence plea that the shooting was "a legitimate reaction of the aggressed against the aggressor, when society is no longer capable of organizing the elementary security of everyone".

The court was told that M Bathelmy Beranger had fired both barrels of his hunting rifle at the driver of a car he saw emerging from a road leading to the warehouse. The driver, M Serge Ros, died from his wounds. In his car and at his home were found the concrete paving stones belonging to M Beranger.

The defence produced psychiatric evidence to prove that M Beranger was a man who was intolerant of social deviance and who had become exasperated by the many thefts of which he had been a victim. In the end he had relieved his frustrations by a "violent emotional discharge".

The prosecution had said that it was for the courts and not the victims of crimes to punish offenders. The alternative was a return to the law of the jungle.

In a case at Lyons, Andre Chassaing, aged 21, was given a life sentence for killing a garage pump attendant and seriously wounding a taxi driver he had been unable to pay.

The taxi driver, M Andre Camatron, made a strong plea to save his attacker from the guillotine. "A bullet passed through my head," he said, "but it did not change my ideas. I did not come here to ask for the death penalty."

In Dijon on Friday, M Alain Peyrefitte, the Justice Minister, said that the death penalty was "an atrocity in itself". There was, he said, no point in seeking to change the guillotine as the instrument of execution. The death penalty, he said, "horrifies everyone, provokes repulsion and it would always remain an atrocity even if the method of execution were changed."

However, he added that the present feeling of insecurity felt by the French people meant there was no incentive to abolishing the death penalty.

Disco for Giscard youth rally, beer and sandwiches for the Communists

From Ian Murray
Paris, March 29



With three blows on the rostrum from an auctioneer's mallet, President Giscard d'Estaing declared his personal election campaign well and truly opened yesterday evening. An enthusiastic audience of young supporters in a large tent burst out cheering and clapping at this expected news.

They chanted out the message emblazoned on their white T shirts: "Allez Giscard. Allez France." They waited in excited fervour for their candidate's speech, which was to promise them all full employment over the next seven years provided he was returned for a second term.

The organisers claimed at least 30,000 young people joined in the rally in four big tents at the Porte de Pantin on the site of the demolished abattoirs of La Villette. It was an afternoon of disco, soft drinks and doughnuts, where any American party conference-goer would have felt at home.

At the same time another gathering of a different kind of youth was surging round the column in the centre of the Place de la Bastille. Red flags fluttered high against the grey skies and the 15,000 present (according to the police) or the 70,000 there (according to the Communist Party) waited for their candidate, chanting rude slogans, drinking beer and eating sandwiches.

The contrast between the two meetings could not have been more marked. The one well-organized, warm and happy; the other straggly, out in the cold and angry.

It was a contrast which M Georges Marchais, the Communist candidate, made much of as he boomed out his message through the loudspeakers round the Bastille. It was a contrast of which President Giscard d'Estaing showed he was well aware as he nailed down the plank job creation for youth as the most important on his election platform.

The President's seven-point job creation scheme was published yesterday in the form of an interview with the weekly magazine L'Express.

He promised: Professional training for the 100,000 unable to qualify for it; more financial inducement for immigrant workers to leave; temporary reduction of the legal early retirement age from 60 to 58; reduced taxation for small firms; encouragement for negotiations to reduce the working week; increased control of unemployment benefit frauds; and wider use of employment benefit funds to help firms in trouble.

There was predictable condemnation of these ideas from all the main unions and political parties. The Communist CGT union went so far as to call the package "indecent" and the strong socialist CFDT said it was "gravely insufficient."

The Socialist Party thought the ideas might create about 5,000 jobs by 1986, compared with the million promised by the President. From his tribune in the Place de la Bastille, M Marchais conjured up an even grimmer world if the package were ever put into operation.

"It will aggravate unemployment," he said. "It is not a plan for youth but for the bosses. Unemployment and ghetto cities—the bosses, the rich, the businessmen want them in order to make more profit."

Another candidate has now succeeded in obtaining the necessary support from elected officials to enable her to stand in the first round of the election. She is Mlle Arlette Laguillier, of Lutte Ouvrière (Workers Struggle) who says she is standing to show the electorate that the left has another face to the one represented.

Dundee city councillors savour Arab hospitality

From Christopher Walker
Jericho, March 29

Four bemused Dundee councillors crossed from Jor into the Israeli-occupied W Bank today to the kind Palestinian reception usu reserved for membere foreign governments.

From the sumptuous ope lunch served in the garden of a Jericho restau it was apparent that the League-financed visit has ta on international significance has also aroused bitter op tion among British Jews.

As the councillors ging dipped Arab bread into unfamiliar array of Orie salads, Mr James Gowans Labour Lord Provost, confe through an Arabic interpr that the delegation was "c whelmed" at the reception.

Mr Karim Khalef, one of two West Bank mayors ma last year in car bomb atta made the opening spe "Welcome to the land of P stine, which is occupied Israeli forces", he said. "It Palestine once, and it will Palestine again."

Using the occasion to vent an Israeli ban designed to vent him making political s ments, Mr Khalef declared support for the Pales Liberation Organization.

It rapidly became clear despite the delegation's st support for the Palesti cause, a wide cultural gap have to be bridged during five-day visit which culmin with a ceremony to mark twinning of Dundee Nablus, the West Bank's lar town.

Apparently unaware their host, Mr Bassam Sh the Nablus mayor, is a pra ing Muslim, the Scots admitted they may have mistaken to bring a tar wrapped whisky bottle as municipal gift.

The councillors ang denied claims that the twinr arrangement and Dundee's d sion to fly the Palestinian in the council chambers, h been the cause of a recent outbreak of anti-semitic slog daubed on walls in the city.

Generating can will go under the Gaza Strip

From Moshe Brilliant
Tel Aviv, March 29

The Israeli Cabinet in Je salem decided today that projected Mediterranean-D Sea power generating ca should start as a tunnel un the occupied Gaza Strip.

The intake will be at Ka a Jewish settlement, and conduit will surface in Negev. It will go undergrou again through the Judean w derness until it emerges so of Massada for a 1,300ft de to turn four hydroelectric bines to generate 600 megawa

The cabinet also decid today to start work on the p ject within two months.

Experts had preferred desert route to shorter or further north largely because would skirt the area containi the region's richest source sweet water.

Since the region is earthqua prone, a conduit with seawa risked pollution of the sw water source by seepa experts said.

Mr Yitzhak Modai, Minis for Energy and Infrastructu said raising the funds of abo £300m for the project was problem.

Four injured in bomb explosion on Tel Aviv bus

From Our Correspondent
Tel Aviv, March 29

Four people were sligh hurt this afternoon when bomb tore a hole through roof of a bus. Scores of oth passengers escaped injury.

The bus, travelling from coastal town of Netanya, h been approaching the centr station here when its route w block.

The passengers becam impatient and insisted driver let them out. Only th women and the driver were when a plastic bomb on a l gage rack went off.

Britain is ready to hold up EEC farm price agreement indefinitely unless specific demands are met

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, March 29

Britain no longer sees any urgency about reaching agreement on the annual increase in EEC farm prices by the scheduled date of April 1, and would be prepared to hold up a settlement indefinitely unless a list of specific demands is met.

Foremost among these is that there must be no change in the value of the "green pound", because this would simultaneously reduce the value of farmers' prices in Britain. A 5 per cent revaluation of the green pound has been proposed by the European Commission, and is strongly urged by the French.

Other demands are that the EEC must continue to pay for a 13p a lb consumer subsidy on butter in Britain (at present opposed by the French and Irish); a £45 a tonne "superrax" on excess milk production must be imposed throughout the Community (at present opposed by most member states); Britain's special system of supporting beef producers must be allowed to continue (no proposal on this as yet from Brussels); and long-term import arrangements for New Zealand butter must be approved (still blocked by Italy).

This tough new British line emerged on the eve of the opening here tomorrow of a three-day meeting of EEC agriculture ministers.

The breakdown yet again of the EEC fisheries negotiations last Friday, which is blamed in London mainly on French intransigence, is cited by British sources as justifying a very hard line over farm prices.

The fisheries meeting was summoned at the request of EEC heads of government to reach a "once and for all" solution.

British sources say that President Giscard d'Estaing is "desperately anxious" to be able to offer his farmers a price rise before the French presidential elections next month, and they therefore argue that the threat of delay could be a powerful weapon.

Another factor which has determined Britain to stiffen its price for an early agreement is the emergence of a potentially attractive deal for many EEC countries as a result of monetary juggling in Brussels in the wake of the recent devaluation of the Italian lira.

Briefly, the European Commission has proposed the simultaneous readjustment and devaluation of the "green rates" of Denmark, Ireland, France, Italy and Greece (the "green rate" is the special exchange value used for converting EEC farm prices into national currencies).

The effect would be to raise farmers' support prices by amounts ranging from 2.5 per cent in Denmark and France, to over 9 per cent in Italy. These rises would come on top of any common EEC farm price increase, which would be financed directly out of the Community budget.

Britain would derive no benefit from this because its green currency is already undervalued, and cannot be further devalued. The British, whose approval is required, believe that they are in a position to drive a hard bargain.

CIA finds no proof of Soviet terror link

Washington, March 29.—A draft report prepared by the Central Intelligence Agency "strongly disagrees" with contentions by the Reagan Administration that the Soviet Union is a key supporter of international terrorism, government sources said yesterday.

The sources, who asked not to be identified, said that the CIA view was contained in a draft of a national intelligence survey. The report was not intended for public consumption.

"It (the report) strongly disagrees with Reagan's and [Secretary of State] Haig's contention that the Soviets are behind international terrorism", a source said.

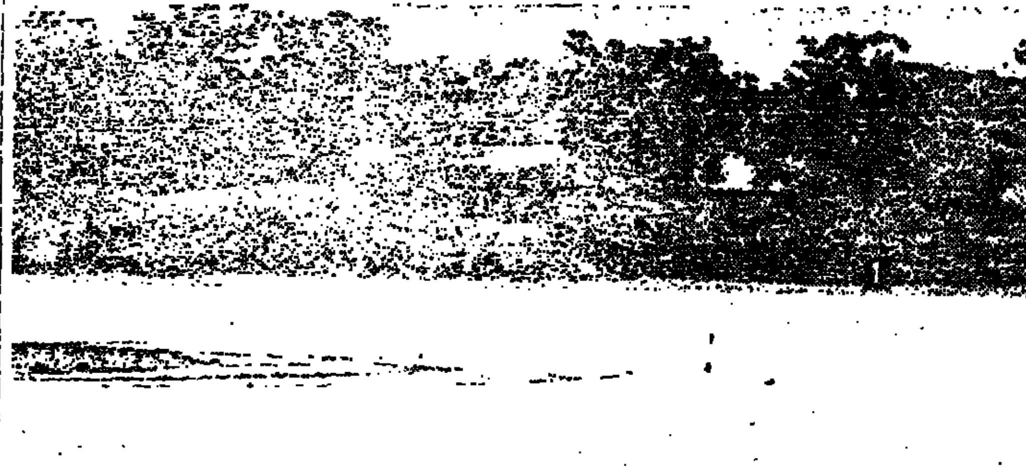
However, the survey also includes assessments, prepared by the Pentagon and the State Department, which disagree with the CIA conclusions, according to the sources. "The Defence Intelligence Agency concludes that the Soviets are in it (support for international terrorism) up to their necks", one source said. Another said of the CIA findings: "There is no smoking gun. And since you don't have that, no, the Soviets aren't behind international terrorism."

The sources said that the CIA admitted that there was "circumstantial evidence" of Soviet involvement

"The (CIA) conclusion is a highly political one", one source said. The sources declined to say exactly what data the CIA had relied upon, but noted that much of it included classified information.

Mr Alexander Haig said on January 28, in his first press conference as Secretary of State, that even though the Russians had been the targets of terrorist activities, "they today are involved in conscious policies which foster, support and expand" international terrorism.

"I think it is clear that we have an unprecedented, at least in character and scope, risk-taking mode on the part of the Soviet Union—not just in this hemisphere, but in Africa as well", Mr Haig said. He ordered a review of administration efforts to combat international terrorism.—AP.





Thai marksmen move in to help Mr Robert Wainwright, a Briton who escaped from the hijacked Indonesian airliner at Bangkok yesterday.

Police raid stifles Zimbabwean spirit power

From Stephen Taylor
Salisbury, March 29

Zimbabwe police believe that, with the arrest of several men and a woman who claims to have spiritual powers, they have nipped in the bud events with ominous similarities to the uprising against white settlers in Rhodesia in 1896.

Recent visitors to the Great Zimbabwe ruins, one of the country's main tourist attractions, have been disturbed by a woman who said she was the reincarnation of the spirit medium Mbuya Nehanda, who incited the rebellion of the Shona tribes in 1896 in which 103 settlers were killed before she was captured by the British.

The tourists reported that the woman was holding ritual ceremonies at Great Zimbabwe, the remains of an African civilization that flourished in the fifteenth century, and last week the Department of National Museums and Monuments called in the police after discovering damage to the conical tower, the most imposing building on the site.

Spirit mediums still wield a powerful force in traditional Zimbabwe society and were used by the guerrilla forces to gain the support of rural people during Rhodesia's seven-year guerrilla war. In the latter stages, the Government also tried to use spirit mediums, to turn people against the guerrillas.

No immediate connexions were made by police between the ritual ceremonies and the recent murders of four people on farms in the vicinity of Fort Victoria, about 35 miles from Great Zimbabwe.

Early on March 11 Mr Abraham Roux and his wife were murdered in their farmyard by two men armed with automatic rifles. Five days later, at a farm near by, Mrs Helena van As and her grandson died in a hail of automatic fire as they were watching television.

The killings shocked the farming community of Fort Victoria which was unscathed by the war.

Investigations into these incidents culminated in a large police operation at a squatters' camp near Great Zimbabwe on Friday. As the force moved in there was gunfire and two men were killed—one as he was about to throw a grenade—police reports said.

Seven Russian-made automatic rifles, ammunition and grenades were found as well as an assortment of axes, spears and knives.

The woman and men arrested are in jail. If found guilty of murder they will not be hanged, as was Mbuya Nehanda after the quelling of the Shona rebellion.

Prince dies in crash

Angers, France, March 29.—Prince Hubert de Polignac, aged 62, head of the Cognac firm, was killed yesterday when his car was in collision with a motor cyclist who was also killed, police said today.

Prisoners of conscience

South Africa: Nelson Mandela

By Caroline Moorehead

When more than 7,000 London University graduates voted for Mr Nelson Mandela, the imprisoned black South African nationalist leader, as their candidate for Chancellor last month they represented not an isolated gesture but part of a coordinated campaign to secure his release.

In the past year alone, a number of governments, organizations and individuals have petitioned the South African government on his behalf. The United Nations Security Council has voted unanimously for his release and Commonwealth countries have taken up his cause.

Mr Mandela has become the subject of countless meetings and gatherings. He has been awarded an honorary doctorate of laws from the National University of Lesotho. On his sixtieth birthday, 10,000 birthday cards were sent to Robben Island where he is held.

Mr Mandela has been in this maximum security jail since 1964. Trained as a lawyer, he joined the African National Congress (ANC) in 1944, becoming its deputy national president in 1952 when he led [illegible]00 people in a campaign of defiance. In June, 1961, he and other ANC leaders set up Umkonto we Sizwe (Spear of the Nation) to carry out sabotage against public buildings. A year later, he was arrested and convicted of inciting strikes and leaving the country without a permit. It was while serving a five-year sentence that he was brought to court as the chief accused in the Rivonia trial and sentenced to life imprisonment for sabotage.

During the 17 years of her husband's imprisonment, Mrs Winnie Mandela has kept up a constant battle of her own against harassment. Imprisoned several times, she is now serving one of a series of banning orders.

The campaign for Mr Mandela's freedom, moving so fast outside the country, is also being conducted from within.

Carrington pledge on aid for Afghan refugees

Quetta, March 29.—Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, yesterday pledged £4m in aid to Pakistan to help that country cope with the influx of Afghan refugees. He told a meeting of refugee leaders at a camp site 60 miles from Quetta during his three-day visit to Pakistan that Britain and the European Community supported them and understood their problems.

Lord Carrington sidestepped repeated pleas from the Afghans, many of whom said they crossed into Afghanistan to fight with anti-Soviet insurgents, for anti-tank and surface-to-air missiles.

"We, the 10 countries of Europe, are doing our very best to get the Russians out of Afghanistan," he said.

At a press conference in Islamabad later he said Britain supported the cause of the insurgents in Afghanistan. Asked if London was supplying them with weapons he added: "I don't think that kind of matter is best discussed in public."

Lord Carrington, who arrived in Pakistan on Friday held talks with Government leaders on new ways to put pressure on Moscow to withdraw its troops

He told reporters that there was no sign yet that the Soviet Union was prepared to leave Afghanistan, but added that the position was not irreversible. "The present danger is that the Soviet Union may use Afghanistan as a base from which to expand", he said.—Reuter.

Hongkong, March 29.—Lord Carrington arrived here tonight. He will stay for two days before going on to Peking.

Curb on arms for Africa sought

By Henry Stanhope,
Defence Correspondent

A fresh initiative on limiting arms sales in Africa is called for in a report published today. It is among a series of recommendations put forward by the International Peace Academy (IPA) to strengthen the hand of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in coping with crises in its continent.

The IPA undertook the study after the disappointing OAU summit at Lomé last autumn, when the African leaders failed to find a coherent policy on problems in the western Sahara and in Chad.

In today's report, the academy says that the scale of disputes in Africa is greater than the OAU had been designed to cope with. They include the boundary dispute between Ethiopia and Somalia, the political conflicts between Uganda and Tanzania, and Guinea and Ghana, the succession question in Djibouti and long-standing colonial and racial arguments.

Military spending has doubled every five years in Africa since 1963, and more and more guns have found their way to unofficial groups, making increasingly difficult the job of peace-keeping on the continent.

The report has been compiled by Mr Hugh Hanning of the IPA and commends regional groupings between powers in Africa in order to control the clandestine flow of arms. It also believes that the OAU should develop its executive structure to cope with crises as they emerge.

Medium-sized powers could advise upon security and offer logistical aid on peace-keeping missions, perhaps paid for by Opec countries who have an interest in seeing stability preserved.

The report also calls for more cooperation to cope with natural disasters, if only by arranging overflying rights in advance.

On arms sales, it argues that few of the big suppliers seem able to win much political leverage from their sales—something evident in the Gulf War where the United States and the Soviet Union have seemed quite unable to exert much influence upon the course of events.

The expense of the more sophisticated weapons hardly seems justified for local security needs. There is now, for instance, a new generation of anti-tank and anti-aircraft weapons which are effective and inexpensive, making further heavy investment unnecessary for most countries.

Constraints on arms deals in Africa could be made through existing arms control discussions, the study says, with the OAU having an important role.

A separate study also published by the IPA today recommends the use of early warning surveillance systems to help monitor the peace along disputed borders in Africa.

This suggestion is made after the success of the American early warnings systems used in Sinai between 1976 and 1980 to monitor the Egyptian-Israeli peace agreements.

The report says that such systems could help elsewhere in the Middle East, particularly on the Golan Heights where the United Nations force has been badly hampered by a lack of advanced equipment.

The Organization of African Unity: A role for the 1980s, and *Weapons of Peace* (both published by the International Peace Academy, New York).

Gunmen try to kill ayatollah

Tehran, March 29.—One of the most eminent supporters of Ayatollah Khomeini, the Iranian leader, has been shot and wounded in Shiraz, official reports said today.

Two young gunmen were said to have attempted to assassinate Ayatollah Rabbani Shirazi, the personal representative of Ayatollah Khomeini in the central province of Fars, and a bullet hit him in the neck.

Ayatollah Shirazi suffered minor injuries, but said in hospital: "The bullet . . . just missed my jugular vein".

The *Ettela'at* newspaper, reported from Shiraz that responsibility for the attack had been claimed by Forqan, a mysterious group which is apparently dedicated to killing prominent Shia clergymen.

Women executed: Seven people, including two women, have been executed in Iran in the past few days for offences ranging from dealing in drugs to adultery, Tehran newspapers reported today.

The two women were sent before a firing squad in Kermanshahan province after being convicted of adultery and spreading corruption.

Two Afghans were said to have been shot by a firing squad along with two other narcotics offenders.—Reuter.

TV claims diplomats are former torturers

By Our Diplomatic Staff

Three diplomats attached to the Argentine embassy in London are accused in the Granada television programme *World in Action*, being transmitted tonight, of having tortured political prisoners at a secret anti-subversion centre in Buenos Aires.

The three men deny the allegations, and Señor Carlos Ortiz de Roza, the Argentine ambassador, has rejected them as politically motivated, saying he sees "no grounds for serious consideration of the matter".

According to the *World In Action* all three men were employed in Buenos Aires in 1977 at an anti-subversion centre. About 3,000 political prisoners are said to have been detained there and subjected to systematic torture after the armed forces seized power in 1976. The three men are identified in the programme by former political prisoners.

Senora Sara Solarz de Osatinksy, who says she was detained for 18 months, accuses one of being present when she was tortured with an electric prod. She alleges that another tied her to a metal bed in readiness for the torture and that the third applied the electric prod to her body.

According to *World in Action*, the three were posted to London just over a year ago when the Argentine authorities began sending abroad officers whose actions had aroused controversy over human rights.

The alleged instances of torture cited in the television programme all took place in 1977 about 10 days after the arrest of the victims. About 10 victims were questioned, during the compilation of the programme.

New President: Lieutenant-General Roberto Viola was sworn in today for a three-year term as the thirty-eighth President of Argentina and the second President of the armed forces' five-year-old national reorganization process (our Buenos Aires Correspondent writes).

General Viola, who is 56, was handed the presidential baton and sash by Lieutenant-General Galtieri, the Army Commander-in-Chief and President of the three-man junta, in an eight-minute ceremony at the Congress building. It was attended by the outgoing President, General Jorge Rafael Videla, Government officials, military officers and foreign diplomats.

109 escape as jet makes crash landing

Brussels, March 29.—One hundred and nine passengers and the crew escaped unhurt when their chartered Boeing 707 which landed at Brussels airport with one engine on fire today, airport officials reported.

The aircraft, owned by a Belgian charter company, had left at 9.27 am for Las Palmas and Tenerife when one of its four engines caught fire.

It returned to the airport and landed outside the runways. The passengers and crew left safely through the emergency exits.—AP.

Bomb damages US army office

Giessen, West Germany, March 29.—A bomb planted on the outer wall of an American army security office here exploded early today causing extensive damage. Although two people were in the office at the time, no one was hurt.

Police said the explosion caused an estimated £22,000 damage to the office and shattered windows in buildings over [illegible] away.—AP.

Foot-and-mouth disease strikes again in Brittany

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, March 29

Another case of foot-and-mouth disease has been confirmed in the Côte-du-Nord department of Brittany. This thirteenth case of the current epidemic was reported just as the authorities were beginning to hope that the disease had been stopped in the area.

The animals on the farm concerned had all been vaccinated seven days before and the last case in the area had been confirmed nine days earlier. The vaccine is supposed to become effective after the tenth day so the new outbreak has dashed the hopes that were being raised

Spanish police shots kill British cargo ship master

From Richard Wigg
Madrid, March 29

The British master and owner of a small cargo vessel, docked in a Basque port, was the victim yesterday of a Spanish policeman's fire.

Captain John Wilkinson, aged 43, from Surrey, was shot dead on board the London-registered *Argus Pride* while in the port of Pasajes near San Sebastian. He had been involved in a dispute about an alleged theft.

The incident occurred only minutes before Señor Alberto Oliart, the Spanish Defence Minister, was due to embark on a naval vessel, moored close to the British ship, as part of his tour to inspect the latest security measures against Basque terrorism.

According to the police, Captain Wilkinson appeared from his cabin and fired three shots when two plainclothes policemen tried to detain a British sailor who had been accused by black African sailors, belonging to another ship, of stealing £70.

But, according to the *Argus Pride*'s crew, Captain Wilkinson had only fired warning shots. However, another policeman, believing his colleagues were under attack shot him.

Suspect shot: A suspected member of the ETA military wing was today shot dead in Victoria as he was fleeing with a group of other young men

Indian Government increase pressure on judiciary

From Kuldip Nayar
Delhi, March 29

In yet another onslaught on the judiciary, additional High Court judges all over India have been asked to state in writing that they are willing to accept transfer to any state.

Mr Shiv Shankar, the Law Minister, has written to chief justices of high courts to let his ministry have the consent of additional judges before their cases for confirmation are considered.

There are nearly 100 additional judges. They are temporary members of the judiciary whose service is extended from time to time. Many of them have served six to eight years but have remained unconfirmed.

Additional judges have been asked to indicate the order of their preference for the states to which they are prepared to be transferred.

In his letter, a copy of which has been sent to all state chief ministers, Mr Shiv Shankar has made it clear that the consent for transfer does not necessarily mean that the judge concerned will be made permanent.

The Law Minister's move is intended to by-pass Mr V. V. Chandrachud, the Chief Justice of India, who, under Article 222 of the Indian constitution, has to be consulted on every transfer of a judge from one high court to any other high court.

Since Mrs Indira Gandhi's return to power, the Government has been putting pressure on Chief Justice Chandrachud to agree to the Executive's right to transfer high court judges. He has been resisting the mounting pressure.

At one point there was a proposal to transfer all chief justices of high courts. But when the Chief Justice refused to be a party to it, the Law Ministry tried to amend Article 222 to do away with the constitutional obligation of holding "consultations" with the Chief Justice before the transfer of a judge.

It seems that the ruling Congress Party is bent upon arming itself with powers to transfer judges in order to put pressure on the judiciary.

EEC in step for switch to Summer Time

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, March 29

All EEC states changed to Summer Time at 1 am Greenwich Mean Time today, the first occasion on which they have put their clocks forward simultaneously.

The unfamiliar accord will not last long. The continental states will put their clocks back an hour at the end of September, but Britain and Ireland will not do so until the end of October.

It is hoped that the harmonization, which will be repeated next year, will make life easier for travellers, telephone users and transport companies.

A proposal just submitted by the European Commission would fix common dates for both the start and end of Summer Time for every year from 1983

The idea is that clocks shouldgo forward on the last Sunday in March or the penultimate Sunay if Easter intervenes—in practice in the period March 23-31, except in 1989 when the date would be March 19.

Cricket

The tale of two captains ends in favour of Lloyd and his bowlers

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Antigua, March 29

After a wonderfully successful morning, in which they took five good West Indian wickets for 65 runs, the fourth Test match slipped right away from England here again today. When, just before lunch, West Indies were 296 for seven in reply to England's first innings total of 271, the game, in theory at any rate, was evenly balanced. But Lloyd, Garner, Holding and Croft made enough runs between them to allow West Indies to declare. When bad light stopped play 10 minutes early Boycott and Gooch, still together, had made seven runs in four overs.

Dilley, with the priceless wicket of Richards, and Botham, who took three wickets in five balls towards the en dof the first hour, gave England their chance. Richards was out in the first over of the day without having bothered to play himself in. But it was all too good to last.

An important chance went down in the earl yafternoon, when West Indies were still not clear, and by this evening England's bowlers were being played even by the West Indian fast bowlers with the proverbial stick of rhubarb. On a day when England's ground work was as good as at any time on the tour—Butcher in the covers and at mid-wicket and Athey at mid-on and mid-off were quite outstanding—four catches went down, two off Emburey and two off Botham.

At the end of nearly two whole days in the field England can have had no wish to bat. Disappointed at having let West Indies off the hook they had nothing to gain by going in for half an hour from bowlers pepped up by making runs. In the event the light went, though not before Gooch and Boycott had had some scary moments.

By the time West Indies, 236 for two overnight, went ahead this morning they had lost the wickets of Richards, Mattis, Gomes and Murray. The weather was cloudier than on the first two days, a drizzle delaying the start for five minutes. Nor was the ground by any means full, despite the certainty of seeing Richards bat. It is hard to imagine that a sportsman was ever so idolized, even in his own community, as Richards is. "To us", Antiguans say, "he comes next to God."

He had, I think, set his heart on giving them two remarkable days batting, perhaps even a triple hundred, to mark their first Test match. Hence his caution last night when, playing for today, he made only seven in the last hour.

In the first over today Dilley took the new ball. The first ball he bowled with it to Richards went flashing to the square-leg boundary, more a force than a hook. Richards played the next defensively before mishooking the third in a gentle parabola to deepish mid-on. If ever a stroke changed the expected course of a day, this was it. Richards's hundred, his 13th for West Indies in his 43rd Test match, started yesterday morning with such a blaze of strokes as even he rarely produces. Of his 114, boundaries accounted for 90.

Next to go was Mattis soon after surviving a chance to long leg where Dilley allowed a well-hit hook to go through his upstretched hands. In Botham's next over Mattis middled a square cut which went low and very fast to cover point—so fast that only the sharp-eyed saw Butcher take the catch off his toes. After Lloyd had glanced his first ball uppishly to long leg Gomes was caught at third slip by Gower, playing the rather casual sort of stroke that might have come from Gower himself. Then off the second ball of Botham's next over, Murray was caught at short midwicket.

Mattis's fourth Test innings was his best. Even so he has yet to look quite as good again as he did in the first of the two one-day internationals. When Murray was out there was an hour to go to lunch, most of which had passed when Roberts was bowled by Stevenson, slogging.

Had Stevenson caught Garner at long off, off Emburey, West Indies would have been 316 for eight. Garner mishit a lofted drive, though the ball still went to a fair height; Stevenson, who had ample time to judge it, was never doing so. When he got two hands to the ball as it passed over his head, he was off balance. By now Lloyd had located the middle of his bat. With huge drives or pounding hits off the back foot, played with a pick-up like Johnny Miller's, he reached his fourth 50 of the series.

For the eighth wicket the two giants, Lloyd and Garner, had put on 83 when Lloyd, going for another forcing flourish through the covers, was caught at the wicket off Stevenson. Downton has had a good match so far, looking increasingly confident and not unaccomplished.

At tea West Indies were 400 for eight, having scored 99 runs in the afternoon for the loss of only Lloyd. In 80 minutes afterwards they made another 68, with Holding showin gthat if Garner can play like a batsman so can he. Most of these West Indians are able to bat a bit—except, perhaps, on green English pitches. They have so many chances to learn these days, and in the case of Garner and Holding they are natural games players with good eyes. This evening, cheered to the echo and against a tired attack, Holding played ridiculously well, twice pulling Emburey for six, hooking Stevenson for another and cutting and driving with fine timing.

After Garner had skied Dilley to mid-wicket, Holding and Croft added 66 in even time, Croft being dropped at backward short leg by Boycott (what was he doing there ?) off Emburey and Holding at long off by Dilley off Botham. So, after all, the day did contain a record partnership—not involving Richards, as we had expected, but Holding and Croft for the last West Indian wicket against England. That one, until this evening, belong to Ramadhin and Worrell.

ENGLAND: First Innings

G. A. Gooch, run out	33
G. Boycott, c Murray, b Croft	38
C. W. J. Athey, c Lloyd, b Croft	2
D. I. Gower, c Mattis, b Holding	32
R. O. Butcher, c Greenidge, b Croft	20
I. T. Botham, c Lloyd, b Croft	1
P. Willey, not out	102
P. R. Downton, c Murray, b Garner	13
J. E. Emburey, b Croft	10
G. B. Stevenson, b Croft	1
G. R. Dilley, c Murray, b Holding	2
Extras (b 6, l-b 7, w 1, n-b 3)	17
Total	271

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—60, 2—70, 3—85, 4—135, 5—138, 6—138, 7—176, 8—233, 9—235, 10—271.

BOWLING: Roberts 22—4—50—0; Holding, 18.2—4—51—2; Garner, 16—5—44—1; Croft, 25—5—74—6; Richards, 9—4—26—0.

ENGLAND: Second Innings

G. A. Gooch, not out	3
G. Boycott, not out	4
Extras	0
Total (0 wkt)	7

WEST INDIES: First Innings

C. G. Greenidge, c Athey, b Stevenson	63
D. L. Haynes, c Downton, b Botham	4
I. V. A. Richards, c Emburey, b Dilley	114
E. H. Mattis, c Butcher, b Botham	71
H. A. Gomes, c Gower, b Botham	12
*C. H. Lloyd, c Downton, b Stevenson	58
†D. A. Murray, c Boycott, b Botham	1
A. M. E. Roberts, b Stevenson	13
J. Garner, c Butcher, b Dilley	46
M. E. Holding, not out	58
C. E. H. Croft, not out	17
Extras (b 1, l-b 7, w 1, n-b 2)	11
Total (9 wkts dec)	468

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—12, 2—133, 3—241, 4—203, 5—269, 6—271, 7—296, 8—379, 9—401.

BOWLING: Dilley 25—5—99—2; Botham 37—6—127—4; Stevenson 33—5—111—3; Emburey 34—12—84—0; Willey 21—7—31—0; Gooch 2—2—0—0; Boycott 3—2—5—0.

Umpires: D. Archer and Sadiq Mohammed.



Richards: blazing a trail to his 13th Test century.

Rowing

Small boat men put 'heavies' in their place

By Jim Railton

Thames Tradesmen, with a distinguished line-up of scullers and small boat oarsmen won, for the first time, the Tideway Head of the River race on Saturday. Tradesmen had a margin of just under nine seconds over the British heavyweight national squad, with three Olympic silver medal winners on board. London University came from the back of the field to clinch third place.

There was a touch of poetic justice to Thames Tradesmen's victory. Tradesmen, in the last decade, have contributed so much to international rowing, often at domestic expense. Tradesmen even had representatives in the second-placed national heavyweight eight on Saturday and their oarsmen in recent years have been on board national squad heavyweight crews, who have won the Head of the River title.

Tradesmen's line-up on Saturday included the Olympic medallists, Wiggin, Whitwell, Justice and Crooks with a world junior silve medal winner, Redgrave, leading the crew. It was a triumph for the small boat oarsmen and, to add insult to injury, they rode in an eight-year-old wooden boat. The national heavyweight eight will be disappointed with their performance but I hope they do not press the panic button. New blood, however, must be considered.

London University, who started as a new entry, really pulled the stops out to finish third, rowing on a slacker tide and improving 356 places just eight and a half seconds behind the deposed head crew. Kingston threatened early on in the race but were obstructed en route and finished fourth. The British lightweight eight, entered as London Rowing Club, took as expected the lightweight pennant to finish fifth, ahead of the British heavyweight second squad eight.

Oxford's Isis were 16 seconds faster than Cambridge's Goldie to finish eighth and win the senior A pennant. Goldie rowed with a substitute on board for their stroke, who has contracted a virus. The fastest overseas crew was Fiat Ricambi (Italy) who finished almost a length down on Isis.

Other crews to shine were the London University second eight, who finished tenth, climbing a staggering 356 places. Vesta moved into the top 10, finishing seventh. The fastest British non-Tideway club was the Lea, finishing 15th. This club was founded this year.

There was exciting racing at Henley yesterday between Oxford and Cambridge. The Oxford University women's eight just won their boat race for the second successive year, by one second. Oxford took the day when the women's second eight, Osiris, beat Blondie by eight seconds with the Cambridge University men's lightweight eight rowing Oxford back to win in a thrilling finish by one second.

HEAD OF THE RIVER: 1, Thames Tradesmen 17min 59.97sec; 2, ARA national squad 18:0[illegible]; 3, London University 18:17.5[illegible]; 4, Kingston 18:26.01; 5, London 18:[illegible].72; 6, ARA national squad II 18:32.48; 7, Vesta 18:35.[illegible]; 8, Isis 18:40.72; 9, Fiat (Italy) 18:44.05; 10, London University II 18:45.34.

PENNANT WINNERS: Head crew, Thames Tradesmen. Lightweight, London I. Senior A, Isis. Senior B, Emanuel School (22nd). Senior C, Pangbourne College (47). Jackson Trophy, Lea. Other, Durham University. [illegible] second crew, Durham University (77th). Novice, Norwich School (111).

OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE (Henley): Oxford University Women's Boat Club (6min 12sec) beat Cambridge University by one second; Osiris (6.37) beat Blondie by eight seconds; Cambridge men's lightweights (6.05) beat Oxford lightweights by one second.

TODAY'S OUTING: Oxford 12 and 3, Cambridge 12 and 7.30 from Putney.

Badminton

Miss Köppen's reign is ruthlessly ended

By Richard Streeton

A crushing defeat for Lena Köppen, of Denmark, the holder, in the women's singles final transcended everything else at Wembley yesterday in the All-England badminton championships, sponsored by John Player. Liem Swie King (Indonesia) avenged his reversal last year in the men's final when he won against Prakash Padukone, of India. Nora Perry and Jane Webster, England's world champions, brought comfort to officialdom by taking the women's titles against their compatriots, Gillian Gilks and Paula Kilvington, and Mrs Perry and Michael Tredgett brought England a second title in the mixed doubles.

On a day, though, saddened by the news of the death of Herbert Scheele, the man who refereed this tournament for 31 years, it was the triumph of Sun-Ai Hwang, of South Korea, that must be given precedence in the five finals. Miss Köppen, a supreme tactician and stroke-maker, with a personality that has made her badminton's acknowledged queen over the past five years, was not so much thoroughly beaten as annihilated. What had been expected to be a closely fought final was tame and embarrassing to watch in its one-sidedness.

Miss Hwang's triumph came by scores of 11—1, 11—2. She was unknown before last January and is the first woman to win the title on her first appearance in the tournament since Judy Devlin, later Mrs Hashman, in 1954.

Miss Hwang outshone Miss Köppen on her own strong points on the forehand and on superbly disguised placements and killing strokes to the floor at short range. There was hardly a rally worthy of the name. The South Korean, with an unusual habit of yelping as she played each point, simply had too much speed and mobility.

Miss Köppen, who for a decade has trounced her rivals with such ruthlessness, accepted the inevitable with splendid grace. She was 5—1 down in the first when Miss Hwang was clearly unfortunate to have a debatable line-call go against her and a let was ordered. Miss Köppen promptly and deliberately served out and the crowd had the awareness to applaud her sporting instinct.

Liem had too much speed and basic agility and strength against Prakash, who was beaten 11—15, 15—4, 15—6. The scores fluctuated like a seismograph in an earthquake. Liem 9—0 up in the first which he lost; 13—0 ahead in the second and always in command in the third. Prakash had the guile, but did not [illegible] judging the back line and with his smash.

In the women's doubles it was Miss Webster whose role was consistently relevant. It was Mrs Gilks who fell prey to her notorious nerves. They remain an extraordinary deficit for someone of her calibre. Nothing has happened, though, this week to suggest that England do not need Mrs Gilks and Miss Kilvington if the Uber Cup is to be won.

The attempt of Tjun Tjun and Johan Wahjudi (Indonesia) to win the men's doubles for a record seventh time was thwarted by younger compatriots. This week's tournament, however, will always be remembered for the emergence of Miss Hwang.

MEN'S SINGLES: Semi-final round: Liem Swie King (Indonesia) beat [illegible] (Denmark) [illegible]; P. Padukone (India) beat [illegible]. Final: Liem beat Padukone, 11—15, 15—4, 15—6.

WOMEN'S SINGLES: Semi-final round: S. Hwang (Indonesia) beat I. Lie (Indonesia) [illegible]—11, 11—7, 11—6; L. Köppen (Denmark) beat [illegible] (Indonesia) 11—8, 10—13, 11—[illegible]. Final: Hwang beat Miss Köppen, 11—1, 11—2.

MEN'S DOUBLES: Semi-final round: Kartono and H. Heryanto (Indonesia) beat C. Hadinata and [illegible] Chandra (Indonesia) [illegible]; Tjun Tjun and J. Wahjudi (Indonesia) beat T. Kihlstrom and S. Karlsson (Sweden) [illegible]. Final: Kartono and Heryanto beat Tjun Tjun and Wahjudi, [illegible], 17—[illegible].

WOMEN'S DOUBLES: Semi-final round: N. Perry and J. Webster (GB) beat Y. Sum and [illegible] (Korea), [illegible]; G. Gilks and P. Kilvington (GB) beat A. Tokuda and Y. Yonekura (Japan), 17—15, 16—[illegible], 15—16. Final: Mrs Perry and Miss Webster beat Mrs Gilks and Miss Kilvington, 15—[illegible], 15—4.

MIXED DOUBLES: Semi-final round: M. Tredgett and Mrs Perry (GB) beat S. Fladberg and Miss P. Nielsen (Denmark), [illegible]; Hadinata and Miss I. Wigoeno (Indonesia) beat T. Kihlstrom (Sweden) and Mrs Gilks, [illegible]. Final: Tredgett and Mrs Perry beat Hadinata and Miss Wigoeno, 17—16, 14—18, 15—10.

Motor racing

Reutemann and Jones stay clear of their rivals

By John Blunsden

The Saudia Leyland team's [illegible] record of success was maintained in Brazil yesterday, on the Jacarepagua circuit, west of Rio de Janeiro, when the Williams Fords of Alan Jones and Carlos Reutemann left all their rivals trailing in the distance. This time it was Reutemann's car which took the chequered flag. The Argentine, who won the Brazilian Grand Prix on one other occasion, had been held on this track in 1978, led all the way on a surface kept wet and extremely slippery by persistent drizzle.

By the end of the race the two team partners, who have now scored four one-two finishes in [illegible] world championship races, had put more than a minute between them and the third man home, Riccardo Patrese, whose Arrows-Ford had been confirming its increasing competitiveness first seen at Long Beach two weeks ago—from the beginning of practice in Brazil.

The wisdom of putting the Swiss driver, Marc Surer, back in the Ensign was rewarded by a surprise fourth place for a team which has been struggling near the back of the grid, and even for survival itself, ever since Clay Regazzoni's accident in California just over a year ago. Surer finished ahead of Elio de Angelis, driving the conventional Lotus 81B, following the outlawing of the twin-chassis Lotus 88 from the second grand prix in succession. The final point for sixth place was earned by Jacques Laffite, his first of the season for the Talbot Ligier team.

The uncertainty of the weather prior to the start meant that teams had to gamble on whether to choose "wet" or "dry" tyres. Nelson Piquet, who to the delight of his home crowd [illegible] pole position with his Brabham, opted for slick tyres, in the hope that the track would dry out. The decision proved to be a costly mistake. He was overwhelmed by other cars at the start, was [illegible] three laps, and by then had lost all hope of climbing back into contention.

Some other drivers, however, fared even worse in the wet, a blinding spray at the start bringing the retirement of three drivers with damaged cars within seconds: Mario Andretti (Alfa Romeo), René Arnoux (Renault) and Chico Serra (Fittipaldi) had a short walk back to their respective pits. Alain Prost (Renault) then became entangled with Didier Pironi's Ferrari, both spinning off the track, and the field was thinned out even more when Siegfried Stohr's Arrows dropped out.

As Reutemann dictated the pace at the front, with Jones settling comfortably behind him, the remainder of the field, headed by Patrese, Giacomelli and de Angelis, steadily lost ground. Although Patrese did well to hold the leaders in his sights for several laps before slipping back, Giacomelli had to abandon the chase when he brought his Alfa Romeo into the pits for attention. Reutemann and Jones had a lead of half a minute over Patrese at the halfway stage. Piquet had recovered to eleventh place by this time, [illegible].

With the Saudia Leyland team assured of victory, the main interest in the closing laps was the battle for fifth place. De Angelis was only two-fifths of a second ahead of Laffite as they raced to the line, with Jean-Pierre Jarier in the second Talbot Ligier a further three and a half seconds behind his team partner.

BRAZILIAN GRAND PRIX RESULT: [illegible]

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP: Drivers: 1, equal, Jones and Reutemann, [illegible] points; 3, equal, Piquet and Patrese, [illegible]; 5, equal, Villeneuve and Surer, [illegible]; 7, equal, de Angelis and Cheever, [illegible]; 9, equal, Tambay [illegible]. Constructors: 1, Williams-Ford, [illegible]; 2, equal, Brabham-Ford and Arrows-Ford, [illegible]; 4, equal, Alfa Romeo, Ensign-Ford, [illegible]; 5, equal, Lotus-Ford and Tyrrell-Ford, 2; 8, equal, Theodore-Ford and Talbot Ligier, 1.

Tennis

Miss Jaeger's persistence proves decisive

From Dennis Lehane
New York, March 29

Martina Navratilova, aged 24, meets an opponent nine years her junior, Andrea Jaeger, of the United States, later today in the final of the Avon women's championships here in Madison Square Garden. This is the third consecutive year Miss Navratilova has contested the final of this tournament, which is the culmination of the women's winter tour. In 1979 she defeated Tracy Austin, but last year that result was reversed.

Yesterday Miss Jaeger defeated Sylvia Hanika, of West Germany, 6—4, 5—7, 6—4 in the semi-final round in one of the most fascinating matches of the tournament so far. The diminutive Miss Jaeger, who beat Miss Hanika in straight sets in the tournament's round robin section, comfortably won the first set and was 4—2 up in the second, but the powerful West German broke back and levelled the score at 4—4.

Miss Jaeger then broke her service once more, but lost the next game, in which she was serving for the match. Miss Hanika went on to hold her own service, before breaking Miss Jaeger to love to take the second set.

Miss Hanika went into a 2—0 lead in the final set, but Miss Jaeger, plugging away from the baseline with powerful drives, gradually clawed her way back to take a 4—2 lead and eventually won 6—4.

Miss Navratilova who has won only one of her four matches against Miss Jaeger, reached the final by beating the Swiss-born West German, Bettina Bunge, 6—2, 7—5. Miss Navratilova has been playing scintillating tennis here all week, and is clearly back to her very best form, of two and three years ago.

McEnroe has too many aces for Borg

Milan, March 29. — John McEnroe defeated his archrival Bjorn Borg 7—6, 6—4 to win the final of the $200,000 WCT Cuore cup here today. McEnroe took one hour 52 minutes to score his fifth victory in 12 matches against Borg. This one, which was worth $35,000 to him, was his first win in a world championship tennis tournament this season but his third successive triumph in the Milan event.

Throughout the match played in front of a sellout crowd of 10,000 the American served powerfully, volleyed aggressively and fired fine passing shots down the lines. The Swede often wasted first services and forehand shots.

He said that his poor serving was probably responsible for his defeat. "John played very well, and I am still in far from top condition," said Borg, who recently announced a reduced schedule for the season.

McEnroe started by breaking Borg's opening service game to take a 3—0 lead before he fought back to 3—3, breaking McEnroe in the fifth game. The American then took a 5—4 lead but squandered three set points on Borg's next service game. It seemed a costly mistake for Borg promptly broke McEnroe's service, only for the American to break back again. McEnroe won the tie break 7—2 and gained the decisive break in the ninth game of the second set following more enforced errors by Borg.

Keeping his nerves under control despite boos and whistles by Borg's supporters, McEnroe won the match with a smash and more good volleys. McEnroe's triumph also gave him 150 points in the WCT standings, led by Jimmy Connors and Roscoe Tanner who have 270 points each.

Squash rackets

A last chance for Hunt to monopolize Open record

By Rex Bellamy
Squash Rackets Correspondent

The Wimbledon of squash, the British open championship, begins today at a new location, Bromley, with the backing of new sponsors, Audi. Four days of competition at the Bromley Town Club will be followed by four days at the Churchill Theatre, where a court is being erected on stage. There will be three rest days. The winner of the final, to be played on April 9, will take £3,700 from the record total of £21,090 in prize money allocated to the main event. All the tickets, for both locations, have already been sold.

To some extent Geoff Hunt and Jahangir Khan, more than 16 years his junior, may be seen as the squash equivalents of Bjorn Borg and John McEnroe. Each starts with an even chance. The rest are outsiders. Jahangir won their first match, at Munich, four weeks ago when Hunt was still finding his feet after the trip from Australia. A fortnight later Hunt won at Bangor, near Belfast, where Jahangir took more risks than he could afford. Learning from that, Jahangir played more patiently at Chichester last Tuesday and precariously won an exhausting test of skill and endurance that lasted for two hours and 11 minutes.

Jahangir, a precociously mature professional, has much in common with Hunt who came on tour in 1963, a boy among men, as reserve to the Australian amateur team. Hunt has since contested the final of this championship nine times, has been champion on seven occasions and needs one more title to surpass the record he now shares with Hashim Khan. It must almost certainly be now or never. At 34, Hunt is a better player than he has ever been but is also a family man playing a reduced competitive programme.

By contrast, Jahangir, already his equal, stands on the threshold of what should be an illustrious career. The final, assuming he reaches it, would be an unfamiliar and severe test of Jahangir's emotional resilience. In terms of experience and motivation, Hunt must be slightly favoured to win.

The field includes two former champions in Qamar Zaman (1975), who has since conceded a psychological advantage to Hunt and Jahangir in turn, and Jonah Barrington, a month short of his fortieth birthday. In 15 consecutive seasons Barrington has won six championships, and has twice been beaten in the semi-final round, seven times in the quarter-final round.

The main event should be a delight from the start, notably in the form of such first round matches as Bowditch v Karimullah; Jahan v Aziz; Maqsood v Safwat; Awad v Blackwood; and Williams v Husain. Once the event moves into the Churchill Theatre there will be room for 580 spectators and the panoply of modern professional sport: hospitality units for private parties, trade exhibitions and sales booths, closed circuit television and digital scoreboards.

What matters, though, as the championship is contested for the 43rd time, is Hunt's chance to win an eighth title—and Jahangir's chance to insist that Hashim and Pakistan should retain a half share of the all-time record until Jahangir eventually breaks it. He is good enough to do that.

Cross-country

Virgin the victor has little sympathy for Ethiopians

From Cliff Temple
Madrid, March 29

Questions about whether, for the second time in three years, distance runners from the home countries underestimated the possibly detrimental effects of even relatively low altitude were being asked on the return from the World Cross-Country Championships here yesterday.

The race had ended amid tragi-farce as six Ethiopians believed they were pouring across the finishing line of the senior men's championship in an unprecedented "sweep" of the leading places, only to discover there was still one more circuit of the Zarzuela hippodrome to run.

The Ethiopians, including the double olympic gold medallist, Miruts Yifter, (who finally finished fifteenth) had apparently been told by their team manager that the 12 kilometres course comprised four laps. But there was a total of four and three-quarter laps, which involved crossing the finishing line five times.

That the Ethiopians, strong favourites in their first appearance in these championships, still recovered to take the team title with Mohamed Kedir actually leading the winner, Craig Virgin of the United States, until the last 400 metres, shows their undoubted ability. Virgin himself, who retained the title, particularly acknowledged Kedir's recovery, but had little sympathy for the Ethiopians' plight. "Everyone else knew how many laps there were, so why not them ?"

For England, the reigning champions, loss of the team title to Ethiopia was less of a surprise than the lacklustre running of all but Julian Goater, the English champion, who finished fourth individually. The English team was sixth, and they, like many of the other British runners, finished complaining of an unaccountably heavy-legged feeling, with breathing particularly difficult.

Christine Benning in fourteenth place, was the first British woman to finish as the unmatchable Norwegian, Grete Waitz, comfortably took her fourth consecutive women's championship. The one crumb of comfort for Britain came from England's junior men, who took the silver team medals, led by the fifth placed Paul Davies-Hale, another who mentioned breathing problems. The promising young Cornishman Jonathan Richards, with two more years of eligibility as a junior, made an excellent first appearance in eleventh position.

MEN: Leading placings: 1, C. Virgin (US) 35 min 8[illegible] sec; 2, M. Kedir (Ethiopia) 35.07; 3, [illegible] Mamede (Portugal) 35.0[illegible]; 4, J. Goater (England) 35.13; 5, A. Prieto (Spain) 35.19; 6, R. de Castella (Australia) 35.22. Further GB placings: 20, N. Muir (Scotland) 35.59; 31, S. Jones (Wales) 35.59; 35, [illegible] Binns (England) [illegible]; 38, D. Clarke (England) [illegible]; 43, A. Hutton (Scotland) 36.05. Team placings: 1, Ethiopia [illegible] pts; 2, US 114; 3, Kenya [illegible]; [illegible], Spain 254; 5, Australia [illegible]; [illegible], England 312. Other GB placings: 1[illegible], Scotland, 576; 19, Wales, [illegible]; 2[illegible], Ireland, 6[illegible]; 24, N. Ireland, 1,0[illegible].

WOMEN: Leading placings: 1, G. Waitz (Norway) 14 min 07 sec; 2, J. Merrill (US) 14.22; 3, E. Sipatova (USSR) 14.22; 4, A. [illegible] (Italy) 14.25; 5, T. Sychova (USSR) 14.2[illegible]; 6, B. Springs (US) 14.26. GB placings: 14, C. Benning (England) 14.41; 22, J. Furniss (England) 1[illegible]; [illegible], P. Fudge (England) 15.0[illegible]; [illegible], D. Nagle (Ireland) 15.02; [illegible], [illegible] Morrish (Ireland) 15.09; [illegible], [illegible] Appleby (Ireland) 15.08; [illegible], [illegible] Arthurton (England) 15.0[illegible]; [illegible], [illegible] Bradford (Wales) 15.15. Team placings: 1, USSR 24 pts; 2, US [illegible]; 3, Italy 89; 4, NZ 90; 5, Canada [illegible]; 6, England 106. Other GB placings: 8, Ireland 167.

JUNIORS: Leading placings: 1, [illegible] Chouri (Tunisia) 22 min [illegible] sec; 2, [illegible] Zerebine (USSR) 22.06; 3, K. Branly (US) 22.07. GB placings: 5, P. Davis-Hale 22.1[illegible]; 11, J. Richards (England) 22.[illegible]; 15, S. Blakemore (Wales) 22.4[illegible]; 18, P. Donovan (Ireland) 22.56; 20, M. Finn (England) 22.59; 2[illegible], C. Bloor (England) 22.[illegible]; 32, B. O'Keeffe (Ireland) 23.1[illegible]; 34, R. Roche (Ireland) 23.1[illegible]; 42, [illegible] Roughey (Wales) 23.[illegible]. Team placings: 1, US 23 pts; 2, England 51; [illegible], Canada [illegible]. Other GB placing: 10, Wales 17[illegible].

Yachting

HAMBLE: Warming Pan meeting (overall results): 14 foot internationals: 1, Maius Opus (A. Fitzgerald) Itchenor SC, [illegible]pts; 2, Bird of Dawning (H. Kemlo) London Corinthian SC, 5pts; 3, An Apple a Day (J. Roberson and K. Goulborn) Down the Pan YC, 5pts. Merlin Rockets: 1, Summer Wine (C. Howarth) Bristol Corinthian YC, 1¾pts; 2, Rock On (I. Dawson) Hamble River SC, 6pts; 3, Inception (G. Willis) Bristol Corinthian YC, 6pts. National 12's: 1, Cheshire Cat (M. Jackson) Ranelagh SLCL, 1¾pts; 2, Raggy Trousers (D. Peacock) Burton SC, 2¾pts; 3, Close to the Edge (Dr Croft) Twickenham YC, 5pts. Merlin Team: Bristol Corinthian YC. 12 foot national team: Hamble River SC.

Skiing

Switzerland carve a new name on Nations Cup

Laax, Switzerland, March 29.— Ingemar Stenmark (Sweden) today ended the 1980-81 World Cup season as he began it, with a slalom victory, but it was scant compensation after being pipped for his fourth individual title by the American, Phil Mahre, yesterday. Another American, Tamara McKinney, won today's women's slalom but the United States team narrowly failed to snatch second place in the Nations Cup.

Switzerland, whose women skiers have dominated the World Cup events for four months, won the Nations Cup with nearly 300 points more than Austria, who came second. Before this season the Austrians had won the Nations Cup for eight successive years, and the trophy had never left French or Austrian hands since it was formed in 1967.

Stenmark appeared determined to erase the memory of yesterday's giant slalom here when, despite a near perfect display, he could only finish third. Mahre took second place behind the Russian, Alexander Zhirov, to prise the World Cup from the Swede's grasp.

In today's knockout competition Stenmark, aged 25, beat two Austrians, Peter Wirnsberger and Hannes Spiss, Zhirov in the semi-final and then the Norwegian, Jarle Halsnes, in the final by the convincing margin of 1.6 seconds over two runs. In his laconic manner Stenmark said afterwards: "When I start a race I mean to win it. This one did not have very much at stake but I am still pleased with my success."

Phil Mahre, the first American to win the coveted World Cup trophy, beat Zhirov in a race to decide third and fourth places. His twin brother, Steve, finished a disappointing 11th and the United States team missed a chance to pip the Austrians for second place in the Nations Cup. Only Hannes Spiss, collecting 10 points after his defeat by Stenmark, contributed to the Austrian team total.

Miss McKinney, women's giant slalom cup winner this season, beat the French skier, Fabienne Serrat, Erika Hess (Switzerland), Olga Charvatova (Czechoslovakia) and the West German, Traudl Hecher, on her path to victory. "I had a good time," she said. "A pity that my team-mates did not have more success. It would have been good to have beaten the Austrians, but we can do that next year, as we will have a strong team."

MEN'S GIANT SLALOM: 1, A. Zhirov (USSR), 2min 39.80sec; 2, P. Mahre (US), 2:40.05; 3, I. Stenmark (Sweden), 2:40.24; 4, [illegible] Skalem (Norway), 2:40.55; 5, H. Spiss (Austria), 2:41.1[illegible]; 6, L. Stock (Austria), 2:41.25.

GIANT SLALOM FINAL STANDINGS: 1, I. Stenmark (Sweden), 135 pts; 2, A. Zhirov (USSR), 115; 3, P. Mahre (US), 84; 4, J. Gaspoz (Switzerland), 71; 5, J. L. Fournier (Switzerland), 62; 6, C. Orlainsky (Austria), 61.

FINAL WORLD CUP STANDINGS: 1, P. Mahre, 266 pts; 2, I. Stenmark 260; 3, A. Zhirov (USSR), 185; 4, S. Mahre (US), 155; 5, P. Müller (Switzerland), 140; 6, B. Krizaj (Yugoslavia), 137.

NATIONS CUP: FINAL STANDINGS: 1, Switzerland 1,582 pts; 2, Austria, 1,285; 3, United States, 1,250; 4, Italy, 758; 5, West Germany, 723; 6, Liechtenstein, 519; 7, France, 495; 8, Soviet Union, 421; 9, Sweden, 305; 10, Canada, 315; Ireland, 7.—Reuter.

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Piste	Conditions Off piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Andermatt	50	320	Fair	Heavy	Fair	Rain	10
Fresh wet snow above 2,210m							
Anzère	35	150	Poor	Heavy	Poor	Föhn	9
Spring snow early in day							
Avoriaz	130	220	Hard	Spring	Good	Cloud	11
Good skiing conditions							
Isola 2000	5	40	Heavy	Crust	Poor	Snow	2
New snow on upper slopes							
La Plagne	105	245	Poor	Heavy	Poor	Rain	1
Severe avalanche danger							
Les Arcs	90	200	Fair	Crust	Fair	Cloud	9
Bare patches on lower slopes							
St Anton	25	420	Good	Heavy	Poor	Fine	10
Spring snow							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes.

Rackets

Cowdrey's robust hitting lives up to family name

By Roy McKelvie

Malvern and Tonbridge will meet in one semi-final round match, and Clifton and Wellington in the other, in the schools' rackets championship at Queen's Club today. The first two schools came into conflict yesterday, when Shaw and Spurling, of Tonbridge, won the Colts' championship, beating von Onselen and Woolhouse, of Malvern, by 12—15, 15—12, 15—12, 15—1, 15—4 in the final round.

Two of yesterday's championship quarter-final round matches provided splendid contests, and three members of notable cricket families, Cowdrey, May and Robins, were involved. The win for Cowdrey and Reiss, of Tonbridge, over Bristowe and May, of Charterhouse, by 18—14, 1—15, 15—17, 15—12, 15—3, 15—12 was the more mature. It hinged on the end of the fourth game, when Charterhouse, leading 12—10, were thwarted by a stoic performance by Reiss, the least natural rackets player in court. Cowdrey's robust hitting was the deciding factor.

Robins and Morris, of Clifton, recovered from being three games down to beat Male and Snow, of Radley, by 14—17, 3—15, 12—15, 15—10, 15—11, 15—10, 15—11 in a match full of lusty hitting. The Clifton success was due less to their own improvement than to Radley, having set a furious pace at the start, losing chances in the fourth and sixth game, and fading as if running short of steam. The consistency of Morris kept Clifton alive.

SECOND ROUND: Malvern (D. N. Sneneer, P. Titchener) beat Wellington II (C. D'Orly, S. Loup) 8—15, 15—1, 15—7, 15—7, 16—13. Tonbridge (C. Cowdrey, P. Reiss) beat Charterhouse (W. R. Bristowe, C. May) 18—14, 1—15, 15—17, 15—12, 15—3, 15—11. Wellington I (J. Alexander, R. Mallinson) beat Winchester (I. Brodie-Smith, J. Crocker) 15—6, 17—5, 15—12, 16—14. Clifton (P. Morris, J. Robins) beat Radley (J. S. Male, J. Snow) 14—17, 3—15, 12—15, 15—10, 15—11, 15—10, 15—11.

COLTS' CHAMPIONSHIP: Final round: Tonbridge (T. Shaw, A. Spurling) beat Malvern (J. van Onselen, J. Woolhouse) 12—15, 15—12, 15—12, 15—1, 15—4.

Tennis

NAPA: Quarter-final round: H. Pfister beat R. Tanner 7—5, 7—6; S. Davis beat B. Mitton 7—6, 6—3, 7—5; S. Glammalva beat J. Hayes, 7—5, 6—3; R. Manson beat T. Mayotte, 3—7, 6—4, 6—1.

Hockey

Miss Swinnerton's winner gives England triple crown

By Joyce Whitehead

England 1 Ireland 0

The England women's hockey team are again the winners of the triple crown. On the outfield of the cricket ground at Old Trafford, Manchester (the pitch must surely be the best in the world) Jane Swinnerton scored the only goal of Saturday's match against Ireland in the 23rd minute. England's captain, Margaret Souvave, passed to Mary Eckersall, who sent an angled pass into the circle for Miss Swinnerton to deflect into goal.

A strong gale blew throughout the match and in each half the team playing into the wind spent more time in defence. At times in the first half England put Ireland under considerable pressure and went close to scoring on a number of occasions. Their approach work was good and all five forwards were well used. Kim Gordon and Sheila Harding combined well and hit some good crosspasses, but the Irish were well positioned to intercept.

England had 13 fruitless corners but even that was not as many as they had against Wales at Wembley. They have struggled to score goals in this season's international matches, in spite of the long periods they have spent in attack. It would seem that too long has been taken reaching the attacking circle, giving defenders too much time. Wales beat Scotland 2—1 at Llanelli on Saturday to take second place. Scotland finished third and Ireland fourth.

ENGLAND: P. Gibbon (Berkshire), J. Burrows (Gloucestershire), L. Carr (Lancashire), M. Eckersall (Lancashire), K. Lobb (Leicestershire), B. Holden (Northamptonshire), M. Souvave (Lancashire, captain), V. Robinson (Hertfordshire), K. Gordon (Leicestershire), J. Swinnerton (Staffordshire), S. Harding (Middlesex).

IRELAND: M. Geaney (Munster), L. Flood (Leinster), M. Daniell (Munster, captain), V. McBride (Ulster), M. Bourchier-Hayes (Leinster), M. Gleghorne (Ulster), J. Manson (Ulster), E. Macken (Ulster), J. Givan (Ulster), D. Guichard (Leinster), E. McNamara (Leinster).

Umpires: R. Bradford, L. Walsh.

North went to the top of the national junior championship table when they beat West 1—0 at Tettenhall, Wolverhampton, on Saturday.

Craig takes East to title

By Sydney Friskin

East 1 South 0

East won the junior divisional hockey championship by beating South, last year's winners, in the final at the Saffrons sports club Eastbourne yesterday. This was the seventh year of the tournament and East took possession of the Norwich Union trophy for the third time, having started the event themselves in the 1974-75 season at Norwich.

In both sides yesterday there was a great deal of talent which could not express itself adequately because of the heavy ground conditions. It had rained earlier in the day and the two matches for the lower placings were played on hard pitches elsewhere.

Still, it was an interesting final which had two distinct phases, the overall supremacy of the East in the first half and the spirited ascendancy of the South in the second. East were well led by Craig, who in the position of sweeper survived a difficult period early in the second half and later became too alert for Southern comfort.

Craig scored all five goals from corners on Saturday in 20 minutes against Combined Services. He virtually won the match for the East yesterday in the 14th minute by converting a penalty stroke, his earlier shot from a short corner having been stopped on the line by a foot.

The best chance for South was set up late in this period by Spray who was badly obstructed inside the circle. The outcome was a short corner—ardent South supporters thought it might have been a stroke—but it came to nothing.

EAST: S. Ashton (Old Loughtonians), N. Vartan (Bishops Stortford), A. Bastow (Westcliffe), D. Crain (Southgate, captain), R. Mitchell (Cambridge University), I. Driver (Southgate), A. Law (Broxbourne), D. G. Atkinson (Cambridge University), M. Farmer (Blueharts), C. Gladman (Ilford, sub N. Gregory, Cambridge University), S. Swerling (St Albans).

SOUTH: P. Beechener (Southgate), J. Gordon (Oxford University), D. Coombes (Bromley), C. Picken (Southgate), G. Daubeney (Richmond), M. Spray (Southgate), S. Kerly (Southgate, captain), D. Faulkner (Havant), N. Williams (Trojans), N. Berry (Beckenham), S. Batchelor (Southgate).

Umpires: C. S. Kemp (Combined Services), M. F. Martin (South).

RESULTS: Group A: North 1, South 2; South 2, Midlands 0; Midlands 1, North 2. Group B: West 2, East 4; East 5, Combined Services 0; Combined Services 1, West 0. Fifth place: Midlands 1, West 0. Third: North 3, Combined Services 3. Final: East 1, South 0.

Cycling

Fortune works in favour of the few

By John Wilcockson

After more than four hours of dramatic dangerous road racing, over a distance of 100 miles, 26-year-old Mark Swinnerton, from Stoke-on-Trent, won yesterday's Pye Essex Trophy, easily heding the final three-man sprint from promising Malcolm Elliott, of Sheffield, and Lakelander Branton Wild.

These three finished clear of the field, which had been decimated by atrocious conditions to a group of just 10 riders. Rain fell heavily on Chelmsford when the 63 starters headed out towards Essex marshes. An immediate lead was established by Northern strongmen, Jarvis, of Chesterfield, and Swailes, from Teesside, soon joined by 1980 winner Galloway, of Luton, and Bath, his team-mate.

Their lead grew to two minutes as they approached a five-mile stretch of treacherous farm tracks. Behind the four leaders, a compact bunch of 60 riders became a broken line of 30. Service crews ran out of spare wheels as potholes and grit claimed a record number of puncture victims, including Downs, the race favourite.

Others crashed on mud left by farm vehicles, some ending their day's efforts in roadside ditches. From the chaos, Bloor, from Chesterfield, emerged with Davies, of Stoken-on-Trent, to join the four front men. Ironically, it was on one of the few stretches of main road that Galloway hit a puddle-filled pothole and crashed out. Bath droped back on the first of three successive climbs to Danbury Village. Swailes also fel back and Jarvis was next to weaken, leaving only Blo orand Davies at the front.

With 20 miles remaining and the leaders entering another series of serpentine farm tracks holding a 40-second advantage, the vital counter-attack was made by Swinnerton, Wild and Thomas, an in-form rider from Liverpool. Unluckily, Thomas punctured on the first concrete surface track, to be replaced by Elliott, 19, who chased alone to make a front group of five. Ten miles from home, Davies weakened and Bloor punctured, leaving three men to contest the sprint.

RESULTS: 1, M. Swinnerton (Stoke CC) 4hr 8min 10sec; 2, M. Elliott (Rutland CC) 4.8.10; 3, B. Wild (Lakes RC) 4.8.10; 4, [illegible] Cornall (Clayton Velo) 4.8.48; 5, [illegible] Sadler (Europa) 4.8.58; 6, T. Stevens (34 Nomads) 4.8.59.

Rugby League

The chance to shut up shop passes Warrington by

By Keith Macklin

The shopkeepers of Widnes have happily resigned themselves for the fifth time in seven years to a disastrous Saturday in early May. The town will empty yet again on the second of the month following the convincing and professional 17—9 Widnes victory over Warrington in Saturday's Challenge Cup semi-final at Wigan. Widnes, the Rugby League computer which, fed by the word Wembley, produces team work, power and skill of clinical near-perfection wore down the favourites and travel yet again to the stadium that is now regarded as their second home ground.

In so doing they gave Warrington a seven point lead but came back before half-time with two beautifully worked tries and, in the second half, fierce tackling and a try from Cunningham kept them well clear of Warrington's desperate efforts. Warrington were rubbing their hands when Martyn, Potter and Mike Kelly gave Bevan a simple run in and Hesford kicked the goal. When Burke sent his kick-off straight into touch Hesford accepted the long range gift penalty and it was 7—0.

From then on, however, Widnes ruled. Wright finished off excellent handling with a torpedo dive at the corner, Adams sent over Burke, and Burke kicked two splendid goals into the wind. Penalties by Burke and Hesford made the score 12—9 to Widnes, then Cunningham clinched it by rolling over the Warrington line for the third Widnes try, while the other two points were supplied by Burke.

In yesterday's League game Castleford went to the top of the championship, sponsored by Slalom Lager, by beating Hull 23-15 before a Humberside crowd of 11,705. Hull, who had Walsh sent off, led 11-5 at half-time but fell away in the second half against the skilful Castleford side for whom Finch had an outstanding game, providing tries, playing kick goals and a drop-goal.

Bradford Northern showed Warrington the error of two hard games in 24 hours by winning 3[illegible] against a tired and weakened side. Warrington were toppled from the head of the table as Northern took full advantage and ran in six tries from Grayshon, Ferres, Alan Parker, Mumby, Barends and Redfearn and four goals from Mumby.

In the second division a crowd of more than 7,000 at York saw the leaders consolidate their position and damage the challenge of Fulham with a 15-10 victory in a thrilling game. The brilliant winning try from the York centre, Sheard, came seven minutes from the end.

Equestrianism

World champions impress

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris

Lucinda Prior-Palmer, with Killaire, who won Badminton in 1979, and Rolf Schmidt of Austria, with Moran, dressage Champion des Alpes, disputed the dressage lead, divided by just one point, in the first advanced section of the Midland Bank classes at Brigstock Horse Trials yesterday. When Killaire hit a show jump he dropped back to fifth place and the Austrian horse went on to win from young Bridget Ensten, who sent Ruth McMullen's Carbrooke Charles across country like a scalded cat.

Bruce Davidson and Might Tango of the United States, the reigning world champions, put up a performance that was a hundred per cent more impressive than the form they showed on their first outing in England, at Sherston two weeks ago, and will be a force to reckon with at Badminton in 10 days' time.

Rachel Bayliss and Mystic Minstrel made all the running in the second section, with the best dressage and the fastest cross-country, to win by nine points from the American pair. Richard Walker won the third section on Chris Collins's Kinallen. He was delighted to be given the ride when the owner decided recently to hang up his boots after a bad hunting fall. Another youngster "Tuff" Tilley, finished second on Major Derek Allhusen's Laurieman, beating Captain Mark Phillips on the Range Rover team's Lincoln with a faster cross country round.

Football

Highbury—graveyard of the great

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

Arsenal were watched by 47,058 people, their second largest crowd of the season, at Highbury on Saturday. Many of them seemed less interested in encouraging the home team than in mocking Liverpool with such banalities as "You're not champions any more". The proverbial cry should have gone unrecorded, yet in a way it was the symbolic voice of frustration from supporters of a side who have the power and the fixtures to thwart those who can succeed Liverpool as champions.

The Championship having taken an unrevealing step with Ipswich Town and Aston Villa winning at home, the outcome of Arsenal's match became important as a guide to where the prize would eventually rest. Arsenal are not entirely without ambitions, a Uefa Cup place still being possible, but more consequentially they are able to have an influence over the title and relegation because their remaining fixtures include matches against Ipswich, Aston Villa, Brighton and Wolverhampton Wanderers.

Their unbeaten home record was not seriously imperilled by a Liverpool team ruminating on Wednesday's Football League Cup replay against West Ham United at Villa Park, and it remains an obstacle to any visiting side. Villa have yet to play at Highbury, where, if they do as well as Ipswich last Christmas, they will still only draw.

Liverpool gave a moderately convincing impression of shaking Arsenal's rickety defence, but after losing Souness with a back injury that will probably keep him from the Cup replay, they failed to go into a higher gear that can still be selected when need drives. It was as if the combination of a poor record in London, years without a League victory at Highbury, last season's unsuccessful and seemingly interminable FA Cup series against Arsenal, and the imminence of another cup tie persuaded them that the occasion did not merit passionate commitment.

The game was won by a single strange goal after 21 minutes. Stapleton's header across the goalmouth appeared to be going beyond Sunderland's reach, but he dived with his hand so positioned that no one outside the immediate area could say whether he headed or slapped the ball over the line. Television made out that there was conclusive evidence that it was a fair goal, but the camera was in no position to judge, and Sunderland scampered away with an impish beam that could have meant anything.

Liverpool had ample time to recover, and no cause to complain of ill luck, because even before the disputed goal Stapleton twice had clear chances to beat Clemence, but was unusually careless. These mistakes were contained in an enjoyable first half embracing some pleasant movements from both teams. Nicholas, recently bought from Crystal Palace, added variety to Arsenal's midfield and Sansom made several perky sprints all the way down the left side. Sunderland, industrious and sharp, played as well as anyone could remember.

Liverpool again looked to have a better balance when Case arrived and Dalglish was the most mercurial forward on a day when the mercury rose to the mid-60s. Unfortunately, the football of the second half was unmistakably of the early 80s, energetic, without inspiration. The standard of ball control and passing confirmed all of the most critical reactions to England's performance against Spain at Wembley last week.

Most of the players were internationals, yet one of the few contributions of real originality came from the uncapped Case, whose clever overhead kick hit the crossbar as Liverpool put Jennings under pressure. At least British goalkeeping can still look the world in the eye. Jennings made two astonishing saves from Dalglish, as well as an involuntary deflection from a slice of pure comedy by Young, who was trying to clear his lines.

Although Souness is pessimistic about his chances of playing against West Ham, Thompson appeared in a reserve game on Saturday and will be available for the good of the defence. Meanwhile, West Ham's defence could be weakened by the loss of Martin, who strained an ankle during a 1—1 draw at Bolton.

Ron Greenwood's message to England players is always that he expects no more than that they should play to the best of their club form. He was again disappointed last week and yet within three days the players who were so lethargic against Spain were tormenting League defences. Francis scored twice in a minute in Nottingham Forest's 2—1 win over the troubled Norwich City team, and Mariner did the same as Ipswich beat Sunderland 4—1 after being a goal down in 20 minutes.

Leicester City, who had a valuable victory at Wolverhampton, and Norwich are in no position to rely on the faults of others, but a glance above reveals that Coventry are descending into difficulties. Since being beaten by West Ham in the League Cup semi-final, they have lost concentration and a home 1-0 defeat by Tottenham Hotspur left them worrying about the fact that their young and promising team may not have the experience to ward off a late season crisis.

Similarly, Chelsea's earlier confidence that they would be promoted from the second division was almost forgotten when losing 1-0 at Newcastle. Perhaps they, too, would benefit from one or two more mature players.

ARSENAL: P. Jennings; J. Devine, K. Sansom, B. Talbot, D. O'Leary, W. Young, J. Hollins (sub, P. Davis), A. Sunderland, F. Stapleton, P. Nicholas, G. Rix.
LIVERPOOL: R. Clemence; P. Neal, A. Kennedy, C. Irwin, R. Kennedy, A. Hansen, K. Dalglish, S. Lee, S. Heighway, T. McDermott, G. Souness (sub, J. Case).
Referee: R. G. Challis (Tonbridge).

Woosnam is held up in move to alter NASL rules

New York, March 29.—The North American Soccer League, bowing to pressure from the International Football Federation (FIFA), yesterday announced they were suspending two controversial rules changes. The move came only a few hours before the start of the new season.

Phil Woosnam, NASL commissioner, said in a statement that he was using his authority under the league's constitution to temporarily suspend rules allowing a 35-yard offside line and three substitutions on each side in one game. The two rules conflicted with FIFA regulations which state that the midway line should be used as the offside mark and there should be a limit of two substitutions.

Last December FIFA ordered the NASL to comply with international rules governing offside and substitutions or face sanctions. The federation has power to impose penalties ranging from a caution to cancellation of a league's membership. Mr Woosnam, who has been trying to work out a compromise with FIFA in recent weeks, said: "To provide FIFA with the opportunity to respond to the NASL through the USSF (US Soccer Federation) as arranged and to demonstrate good faith to our players and referees who have been continually threatened with suspension, I have suspended the NASL rules for offside and substitution temporarily."

He blamed the USSF for failure to reach an agreement, saying FIFA had stated during the past week that it favoured a meeting between FIFA, NASL and USSF representatives to discuss the situation. Mr Woosnam said the USSF had not passed on information to the league. Protocol demands that leagues deal with FIFA through their national federation.

"In the past 24 hours the NASL have been expecting a positive answer to a recommended solution to our problems currently being reviewed by senior FIFA officials," Mr Woosnam said. No response had been received from FIFA, probably because top USSF officials had "not made themselves available to receive telephone calls since yesterday," he added.

"We find ourselves in an impossible situation and officials of all franchises are outraged at the offhand treatment the League have received from the USSF," he declared. Mr Woosnam said he would be seeking a meeting with FIFA to press his case for the NASL to preserve their rules for this season and for FIFA to carry out an official study into them.

He maintains that NASL rules are beneficial to the game, making it more entertaining, and are essential to marketing soccer in the United States, where it faces fierce competition from established sports.



See how they jump: three blind mice, Miller (Tottenham), Whitton and English (Coventry).

Boxing

Mathebula lets his admirers down

From Eric Marsden
Johannesburg, March 29

Soweto's first world title contest ended sadly for its black citizens on Saturday when their hero, Peter Mathebula, tamely surrendered his WBA flyweight title to Santos Laciar of Argentina on a seventh round technical knock-out. A multiracial crowd of nearly 30,000 was shocked into silence by Mathebula's humiliation in his first defence of the title he won in Los Angeles last December from Tae Shik Kim of South Korea.

The bout had been planned as one of two warm-up exercises before the black champion made his first serious defence of the title. Laciar, who was outpointed by Charlie Magri at London's Albert Hall last December, was ranked only tenth in the ratings and was expected to provide little more than a good workout. Now the Argentine plans to meet the No 1 contender Luis Ibarra, of Panama.

The sturdy Argentine, who at 22 has had more than 50 professional outings, was outboxed by Mathebula for four rounds but landed the first real blow in the fifth to put the champion down for eight. Mathebula was then pushed backwards through the ropes. He recovered well but after two minutes of the seventh was shaken by body blows and put down by a right to the chin. He struggled to his feet at eight but indicated to the referee, Stanley Berg of Chicago, that he could not see because of a swelling over his eye and was counted out on his feet.

Mathebula, who went into the ring half a pound lighter than his opponent, maintained the sorry record of South African world champions of losing the title on the first defence. It was, nevertheless, an historic occasion for Soweto with black and white sportsmen mingling in harmony. At the ringside the Minister for Cooperation and Development, Dr Piet Koornhof, sat only a few seats away from radical black politicians. Dr Koornhof and his party remained standing to attention as the official South African and Argentine anthems were followed by the singing of "Nkosi Sikelele Afrika", the black anthem.

There had been much controversy over which anthem should be played and a militant political group, the Azanian People's Organisation, had called on blacks to ignore the event as part of the sports boycott against South Africa. It relented with two day to go.

England's Dolittles learn a new line from Lerner

By Clive White

Ipswich Town 4 Sunderland 1

The glaring gap in the English game's learning which was exposed on the international stage at Wembley last week, emerged again on Saturday within one of our leading campuses. This time it took only two foreigners to turn 25,000 faces red, a paler shade of red only because the pair play for Ipswich Town. It left you wondering, if Alan Jay Lerner would excuse it, why can't an Englishman be more like a Dutchman?

The contribution of Muhren and Thijssen to Ipswich's continuing success story has seldom been more scholarly than it was here. While their muscular British classmates lumbered along, the spindly Dutchmen strove, with common-sense and subtlety, to extricate Ipswich from the predicament they placed themselves in, almost from the kick-off, against a Sunderland side who for 62 minutes competed with a determination and confidence usually left in the cloakroom by opposing sides at Portman Road.

The fact that Ipswich gave Sunderland the ball from the start was a help. And the clumsy way in which Ipswich attempted to remedy a string of minor disasters, culminating in a collision in which Elliott had to leave the field permanently before he had broken sweat, was a further sign of impending calamity.

In the eighteenth minute as Rowell, the substitute, took the field, the ball bounced foolishly off Butcher's shins as it would off a two-year-old, and the cool Rowell, with a neat piece of hop-scotch, nipped in for a goal.

If the Dutchmen's contribution was positive in the extreme, Osman's was almost as effective in the negative. Having later made up for his share in the early errors at Wembley, he continued his atonement. He worked tirelessly, like "a labourer among artists", as he puts it modestly.

Muhren's equaliser a minute before half-time was as important as it was cunningly conceived. It came as a reward for their efforts to shake off the lethargy. The goal was a replica of Muhren's winning shot for The Netherlands against France in midweek, a direct free kick curled over the wall and in off the white with the accuracy of a champion snooker player. This took a special talent, but much of the Dutchmen's skill is merely the result of proper schooling in the basics.

Until then Sunderland could be forgiven for thinking it might be their day; even the ball wore their colours. Then in the sixty-second minute it all came to a full stop, like a runaway horse gone lame. From Muhren's corner Mariner was first to an unmarked queue and nodded in. It made nonsense of all that had gone before.

A minute later this fine opportunist was back there again to finish off Brazil's good work. It was a slap in the face for indiscipline and one which Hinnigan returned during injury time for O'Callaghan's cheek. After imaginary cards were brandished insult was added to ignominy for the departing Hinnigan, who turned in time to see O'Callaghan make space from the ensuing free kick for Thijssen to slot home.

IPSWICH TOWN: P. Cooper; K. Steggles, S. McCall, F. Thijssen, R. Osman, T. Butcher, J. Wark, A. Muhren (sub, K. O'Callaghan), P. Mariner, A. Brazil, E. Gates.
SUNDERLAND: B. Siddall; J. Hinnigan, J. Bolton, R. Hindmarch, S. Elliott, M. Buckley, K. Arnott, A. Brown, T. Ritchie (sub, G. Rowell), I. Bowyer, S. Cummins.
Referee: A. Gunn (Burgess Hill).

Striker of the match that can light the Villa fire

By Stuart Jones

Aston Villa 2 Southampton 1

Aston Villa's matchbox grows lighter. They have only seven matches left and Lucifer only knows how many damp ones remain. The one at White Hart Lane nine days ago and this one at home failed to ignite. With Leicester City catching fire, Villa will need to strike an inspired spark or two during their visit there on Saturday.

The man to provide it is Withe, conspicuously absent through suspension, and no one will welcome his return more than Shaw. Like a traditional centre forward, Withe takes punishment and responsibility; Geddis his substitute, is not and does not. Without his usual partner, Shaw looked half the under-21 international he has become this season.

Villa did not help by continually hitting long high balls as though they were aiming at Withe's heaven-bent ghost. They made matters worse by ignoring Morley, who went through Golac later in the afternoon as though he were made of Macedonian mist. They made it even worse, especially in the first half, by seeing how often they could be caught in possession, the nearer to danger the better. It was championship roulette.

They should have lost and almost did. Southampton, an entertaining concoction of brilliance and incompetence, ripped eight holes through Villa's frail defensive fabric but not once did they beat Rimmer. They had been shown how to do it, too, by Evans after only 11 minutes, although the move—Channon's flick, Williams's cross and Keegan's run—was worthy of a goal itself.

Channon alone had four chances but Ball missed the easiest of the lot. Ten yards out and with the net filling his sights, he fired up towards the windows of the elevated boxes. Villa, if nothing else, made them pay for their indiscretions, although the crucial equaliser two minutes before the interval was scarcely credible.

That Morley was offside when Geddis put him through seemed beyond dispute. The point of discussion was whether he was more than five yards beyond Southampton's red-and-white line. The speedy Morley does not need any start, let alone that much, to go clear. A minute later Geddis was equally free and scored with the same ease.

Some of Southampton's aging performers are almost old enough to be the fathers of Villa's youngsters but they each still make a significant contribution. Ball, the elder statesman, remains a fine organizer. Channon opens up possibilities with his eager running and Nicholl and Watson will be dominant in the air even when they are grandfathers.

Although Mortimer, with fierce drives and remarkable precision, smacked the bottom of the right-hand post in each half, it was Southampton who closed as they had opened, by missing a clear opportunity. In failing to take any of them, Southampton closed a little to their door to Europe and kept Villa's to the title ajar.

ASTON VILLA: J. Rimmer; K. Swain, G. Williams, A. Evans, K. McNaught, D. Mortimer, D. Bremner, G. Shaw, D. Geddis, G. Cowans, A. Morley.
SOUTHAMPTON: P. Wells; I. Golac, N. Holmes, S. Williams, D. Watson, C. Nicholl, K. Keegan, M. Channon, G. Baker, S. Moran, A. Ball (sub, D. Puckett).
Referee: N. Glover (Chorley).

Today's fixtures

7.30 unless stated.
FA YOUTH CUP: Semi-final round, second leg: Manchester United v Tottenham Hotspur.
ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Altrincham v Frickley.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Bedford v Barrow, Minehead v Cambridge City, Taunton v Redditch. Poole, Dover v Addlestone and Weybridge.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Matlock v Burton Albion. Cup: semi-final round, second leg: Worksop v Runcorn.
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Croydon v Barking, Hitchin Town v Dagenham.

A May in March brings a smile to Leicester faces

By Vince Wright

Wolverhampton 0 Leicester 1

Leicester City gained victory almost by default at sunny Molineux on Saturday. For this they can thank Wolverhampton Wanderers, who gave an inexplicably lackadaisical performance in an appalling match. Leicester were happy at collecting two priceless points in their brave struggle to avoid relegation to the second division but no-one else was smiling.

A press colleague said at half-time that the Wolves manager, John Barnwell, would give his team a pep talk. Pep pills would have been more appropriate. I have seldom seen a side show such a lack of urgency. At least Leicester, uninspired and outplayed though they were, looked busy and interested. If Wolves play in a similar fashion in their FA Cup semi-final match against Tottenham Hotspur in two weeks' time then Spurs will have nothing to fear.

Perhaps Wolves will have more pressing matters on their mind by the time they meet Spurs, for their league position is far from secure. Another defeat at Sunderland next Saturday and they will be looking nervously over their shoulders at the likes of Brighton and Hove Albion, Norwich City . . . and Leicester.

For a long time this season Leicester seemed doomed to second division football but their manager, Jock Wallace, has produced a team of battlers and this never-say-die attitude has been recently rewarded by some unexpected victories. Wins at Liverpool and Tottenham were particularly praiseworthy but they must have been surprised at how easily their latest away success was obtained.

Wolves missed the infectious enthusiasm of Hughes and they were so sluggish and prone to error that it was a mystery why Bell, the substitute with a knack for scoring vital goals, was not brought on earlier. The much acclaimed strike-force of Richards and Gray managed just two shots between them. May's domination of Gray was one of the main reasons for the slight edge held by Leicester. He was in such assured form that Leicester barely felt the absence of their other central defender, O'Neill, who was stretchered off before half-time and did not reappear for the second half.

O'Neill's leg injury was the one noteworthy incident in an abysmal first half. The second was only marginally better. Wolves finally stirred themselves but a good effort from Richards and a miserable miss by Gray were followed by Leicester's winning goal in the fifty-eight minute. Young threaded a pass through to Melrose who turned neatly and shot firmly past Bradshaw.

WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS: P. Bradshaw; G. Palmer, D. Parkin, W. Clarke (sub, N. Bell), J. Berry, K. Hibbitt, W. Carr, A. Gray, J. Richards, A. Eves.
LEICESTER CITY: M. Wallington; T. Williams, A. Wilson, T. O'Neill, A. Peake, L. May, J. Melrose, K. Lynex, J. Wilson, A. Young, I. Wilson, K. MacDonald.
Referee: L. Shapter (Torquay).

Leonard takes his time but wins with ease

Syracuse, New York, March 29.—Sugar Ray Leonard stopped his fellow American Larry Bonds with two quick rights in the tenth round of a scheduled 15-round fight last night to retain his World Boxing Council (WBC) welterweight title. Leonard, aged 24, knocked Bonds down in the fourth round and dominated throughout, scoring with several combinations before the final punches which caused the referee, Arthur Mercante, to stop the fight.

Bonds, aged 29, from Denver, Colorado, gave Leonard some problems early in the fight with his speed of foot, which enabled him to evade the champion for the first three rounds, but he showed little ability to hurt Leonard with his punches. All three judges had Leonard comfortably ahead when the end came.

Leonard, who will fight Ayub Kalule, of Uganda, for the World Boxing Association (WBA) light-middleweight title in June, was making his first appearance in the ring since regaining his title from Roberto Duran, of Panama, in November. The crowd booed him for not winning with an early knock-out, but Leonard said: "I had to be cautious. I really didn't know what he had." It was Leonard's twenty-ninth victory.

Bonds, a dustman, was pleased with his performance. "Nobody expected me to go two rounds with him," he said. He earned $85,000 from the fight, while Leonard received a reported $750,000.

In Atlantic City, New Jersey, Michael Spinks, the world's number one light-heavyweight contender, knocked out the former champion, Marvin Johnson, in the fourth round.

County edge forward, passing back

By Tom German

Blackburn 0 Notts County 0

The longer term problems of few clubs with limited resources establish themselves in the championship, assuming they get there, will not be occupying Blackburn Rovers and Notts County too deeply just now. The threshold to the high life is a mere stride away and both must be optimistic about their prospects of crossing whatever awaits on the other side. Notts County, in second place in the second division, are three points ahead of their closest pursuers and Blackburn, though slipping to fourth position after Saturday, meet four clubs among the bottom half-dozen in their last seven matches.

If hopes mature into reality, the road could well be uphill. It is significant that Kendall, Blackburn's player-manager, at a stage in his career when his best playing days must be behind him, was outstandingly effective. In his 500th league match his perception was an example, his sense of position a guideline for those around him. If he erred at all, it was in missing one of Blackburn's best scoring chances following a shrewd exchange with [illegible]ey on the half-hour.

[illegible]asson, another with a first division pedigree, nursed County's moves from immediately behind the front line, but once [illegible] had plotted, and missed, a couple of early chances, preserving the margin of points between [illegible] and Blackburn appeared to be uppermost in County's thoughts.

Their defence was as bountiful as Scrooge observing strict self-denial for Lent. They channelled countless back passes to Avramovic, their Yugoslav goalkeeper; a tactical expedient in curbing [illegible]er's eagerness to get at them, [illegible] as disciplined and effective.

Blackburn had opportunities to [illegible] for all that, though they [illegible]ly miss the skills of Brotherston, their Irish international [illegible]er who will be out for the [illegible]al last weeks of the season. [illegible] took a firm hold on the [illegible]h after those early alarms, [illegible] it was perhaps unfortunate [illegible] those anticipating a goal or [illegible] that spring has begun to show [illegible]ose. In the mud of recent [illegible]s, trajectories may have been [illegible], on an unaccustomed dry [illegible] shots went whizzing high and [illegible]dessly. Garner twice got too [illegible] elevation on his shots when [illegible] was an opening; McCulloch [illegible] the same for County.

[illegible] entertaining opening half was [illegible]wed by a scrappier second. [illegible] Blackburn—who have lost [illegible] once in 17 consecutive league [illegible]hes—kept at it eagerly. [illegible] Avramovic's finger tips kept his [illegible] intact, as a centre by Brattan [illegible] took a deflection off O'Brien [illegible] sped towards the angle of bar [illegible] post. Towards the end, [illegible]ey got in a header which was [illegible] too high, but thereafter, [illegible]ty used the same route back [illegible] Avramovic to keep Rovers at [illegible]'s length.

BLACKBURN ROVERS: [illegible] Arnold; [illegible] Branagan, M. Rathbone, [illegible] Kendall, [illegible] Keeley, D. Fazackerley, S. Garner, [illegible] Rusby, J. Lowey, M. Burke, M. [illegible].
NOTTS COUNTY: R. Avramovic; T. [illegible]amin, R. O'Brien, M. Goodwin, B. [illegible]ine, P. Richards, I. McCulloch, [illegible] Masson, T. Christie, D. Hunt, P. [illegible].
Referee: J. Lovatt (Crewe).

Celtic restore status quo

By Iain Mackenzie

Celtic 1 Aberdeen 1

Celtic are almost certainly Scottish champions for the 32nd time, and the 12th since 1966. An overdue goal five minutes from the end gave them a point against the retiring champions, Aberdeen, in Glasgow on Saturday. It was sufficient to maintain the eight-point gap, and although Aberdeen have played one game less, Celtic should complete the formalities with a win over Partick Thistle at Firhill on Sunday.

Having led the league for most of last season, Celtic fell from grace during the run-in, and Aberdeen reached the post first to break a Celtic-Rangers monopoly which had lasted since Kilmarnock won the title in 1965 and which seemed bound to last for the rest of the century. Those who rejoiced at this disruption of the status quo tempered their enthusiasm with the thought that what Aberdeen had done once, they might not be able to repeat.

So it has proved. There was some writing on the wall when Liverpool went to Pittodrie in the European Cup, and won 1—0, following up with a 4—0 smacking at Anfield. More recently, sides a long way below Liverpool's standard have been taking league points from Aberdeen, while Celtic have been plugging steadily away, widening the margin at the top.

One reason for Aberdeen's success against the far more experienced Glasgow side was their almost uncanny ability to win on Celtic's pitch. Until Saturday they had done so five times in succession, and it was this record which gave them hope that all was not yet lost. It is now.

Aberdeen went ahead in the first half when Harrow took a through-ball from McLeish and lobbed it over the goalkeeper's head. That, however, was just about the only time Bonner broke sweat.

MacLeod wasted the best chance of the match when he took a penalty kick and hit the ball straight at Leighton, who, fortunately for him, had not decided which way to dive. Then with the last kick of the match, McCluskey seemed to have scored the winner for Celtic; but the referee awarded the goal and then changed his mind after talking with a linesman who had apparently seen an offence everyone else missed.

It altered the result, but not the destination of the championship. McCluskey's goal five minutes from time after Provan ran down the right and gave him the pass, defeated Aberdeen as surely as if both points had been taken.

CELTIC: P. Bonner; D. McGrain, J. Reid, D. Sullivan, T. McAdam, R. Aitken, D. Provan, M. MacLeod, F. McGarvey, T. Burns, C. Nicholas (sub, G. McCluskey).
ABERDEEN: J. Leighton; S. Kennedy, D. Rougvie, A. Watson, A. McLeish, W. Miller, J. Simpson, D. Bell, M. McGhee, A. Harrow, T. Scanlon.
Referee: K. Hope (Glasgow).

Portsmouth drop vital point

Portsmouth's experiment with Sunday football proved a double disappointment for them yesterday. A crowd of only 12,243—2,000 below their average gate this season—saw them drop a point in their challenge for promotion from the third division when they were held to a 1—1 draw by Oxford United.

Gregory gave Portsmouth the lead after only two minutes when his mis-hit shot struck Briggs and trickled past the Oxford goalkeeper Burton. Cassells headed an equalizer after 10 minutes and Oxford came close to taking both points. Foley had an effort disallowed for offside and in the second half Mellor saved a Shotton penalty, awarded for a foul by Aizlewood on Cassells.

In division four, Torquay United had Weston, their midfield player, sent off for persistent dissent as they beat Aldershot 2—0. Torquay went ahead in the twenty-second minute with a penalty, after Wooller had fouled Coffill. Jones saw Johnson save his spot kick, but he scored from the rebound. Cox headed the second goal from Weston's corner 15 minutes later to seal Aldershot's first defeat in eight games. The crowd of 2,086 was less than Torquay's average attendance and 400 down on their last Sunday game.

Houghton, the Wigan striker, scored all three of his side's goals in the 3—2 victory at Tranmere Rovers in front of Prenton Park's highest gate of the season, 3,437. Houghton scored twice in the first 12 minutes, before Mungall reduced the arrears before half-time. Houghton ensured victory with his third goal four minutes from time, Kelly adding Tranmere's second three minutes later.

Heard, Aston Villa's £100,000 midfield player was yesterday described as "very comfortable" in hospital after being rushed there on Saturday following a heart attack scare. Heard, aged 21, who made nine appearances last season after moving from Everton, was taken to the Good Hope Hospital in Sutton Coldfield after suffering chest pains in training.

A hospital spokesman said yesterday that Heard had not had a heart attack, but an investigation was being carried out into the chest pains. It is believed that Heard, who has not played in the senior side this season, has a virus condition and will be detained in hospital for a few days.

Third division
Portsmouth (1) 1 Gregory — Oxford (1) 1 Cassells — 12,243

Fourth division
Torquay (2) 2 Jones, Cox — Aldershot (0) 0 — 2,086
Tranmere (1) 2 Mungall, Kelly — Wigan (3) 3 Houghton (3) — 3,437

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: King's Lynn 0, Morecambe 0; Tamworth 1, Gateshead 1.
ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Maidstone 4, Northwich Victoria 0.
SCHOOLS MATCH: Somervale, Midsomer Norton 4, Sexey's, Bruton 3.

Schools players shame their elders

By John Nicholls

England 4 Ireland 0

"The best match I've been to for a long time", was the verdict of a little boy as the contented crowd streamed away from the schools' international at Wembley. One does not know of the standard by which he judges matches, but if he regularly watches Football League games, one could see what he meant.

Both teams played with a vigour and commitment that shamed many of their elders, yet without the childish behaviour that is ever present in the adult game. Play flowed from end to end, tactics were direct and simple and the whole thing was enormously entertaining. Best of all, perhaps, for English supporters was watching a winning side.

The English boys were far too good for the Northern Irish who, although of the same age group, 15 years or under, looked a couple of years behind in their development. A final score of about 7-1 would not have flattered England, who were so well organized that Ireland were given only one scoring opportunity.

That fell to their best forward, Shearer, who was given the time to pick his spot by a fine pass from the right back Clarke. For a moment the English defence was wide open, but the boy's impetuosity betrayed him and he shot wide. This was the only time that England relaxed at the back.

In contrast, Ireland were inclined to panic whenever England attacked, which was most of the time. Their poor goalkeeper was terribly exposed and must still be having nightmares of shots homing in on him from all sides. He made two spectacular saves.

Even hardened pros might have difficulty in dealing with Lambert. At 5ft 10in and 154lb, he is no pushover and smaller boys tended to bounce off him. He also has a powerful throw from the touchline, which frequently caused consternation in Ireland's penalty area. Lambert scored twice, first by being in the perfect position to receive a pass from Parkin and then tapping in a headed pass from Cooper at a corner.

Sintea scored first, after 14 minutes, which gave England the incentive to look for more and the best goal came from the captain, Kerslake. He moved forward from midfield, exchanged a one-two with Lambert, dribbled on into the area, rounded Quinn with all the expertise of a Keegan and shot into an empty net.

ENGLAND: A. Hone; S. Parkin, N. Aldridge, A. Robinson, I. Marwood, D. Kerslake, J. Neal (sub, S. Crocker), P. Booth, A. Sintea, C. Cooper (sub, K. Jones), M. Lambert.
NORTHERN IRELAND: W. Quinn; P. Anney, K. Scott, P. Rafferty, A. Desborough (sub, A. [illegible]), G. Mills, D. Shearer, S. Atkinson, T. Kelly, B. Kennedy, P. Clarke (sub, S. Baxter).
Referee: A. Bell (Sheffield).

Bayern spare Hamburg extra indignity

Bonn, March 29.—Hamburg, leaders of the West German Bundesliga, suffered a crushing 6—2 defeat by Borussia Dortmund on Saturday. Manfred Burgsmueller, the league's top scorer, took his tally to 26 with two of the goals. Hamburg's only excuse was that they were missing Franz Beckenbauer and their first choice goalkeeper Uli Stein.

Bayern Munich, Hamburg's closest challengers, failed to capitalize on the leaders' fall from grace. They were held to a 1—1 home draw by lowly 1860 Munich and are still two points adrift of Hamburg.

In the Italian league Roma beat Cagliari 1—0 to replace Juventus as the undisputed leaders. Conti scored the only goal in the 79th minute before 75,000 in the Olympic Stadium. Juventus lost 1—0 to the defending champions, Internazionale, who were indebted to an inspired performance from their Austrian forward Prohaska. The goal from the Inter left winger, Muraro, in the 60th minute improved his side's chances of retaining the title.

Before only 8,000 spectators the Dutch leaders, AZ 67 Alkmaar, struggled to hold on against PEC Zwolle after their international midfield player Peters scored what later turned out to be the only goal in the seventh minute. PEC attacked furiously for the rest of the match, but failed to penetrate the solid Alkmaar defence.

Bouwens scored the winner for Feyenoord in their game at Breda and PSV Eindhoven defeated FC Twente Enschede 1—0 before 22,000 fans in one of the worst matches of the season. Twente seemed preoccupied with their visit to Kuwait which started today. The only goal was scored by PSV's Korean forward Hu.

Fielding four Danish internationals Ajax defeated FC Groningen by the same score, with a goal from Tscheu La Ling.

DUTCH: Sparta Rotterdam 6, Go Ahead 2; Roda JC Kerkrade 0, Utrecht 0; Wageningen 2, Willem II 1; NAC Breda 0, Feyenoord 1; PSV Eindhoven 1, Twente Enschede 0; Excelsior Rotterdam 0, MVV Maastricht 0; Groningen 0, Ajax 1; The Hague 2, NEC Nijmegen 0; AZ 67 Alkmaar 1, PEC Zwolle 0.
FRENCH: Angers 2, Tours 2; Auxerre 1, Lens 1; Bastia 3, Bordeaux 2; Lille 3, Nice 1; Lyons 4, Nancy 2; Metz 0, St Etienne 0; Monaco 3, Laval 0; Paris SG 3, Sochaux 2; Strasbourg 1, Nimes 0; Valenciennes 3, Nantes 3.
ITALIAN: Ascoli 1, Avellino 1; Catanzaro 2, Udinese 1; Fiorentina 1, Como 1; Internazionale 1, Juventus 0; Napoli 2, Bologna 1; Perugia 3, Pistoiese 0; Roma 1, Cagliari 0; Torino 1, Brescia 1.
SPANISH: Real Madrid 3, Barcelona 0; Valladolid 2, Hercules 1; Almeria 0, Betis 2; Athletico de Bilbao 0, Real Sociedad 2; Sevilla 3, Las Palmas 2; Murcia 1, Osasuna 0; Espanol 1, Valencia 2; Gijon 3, Atletico de Madrid 0; Zaragoza 2, Salamanca 0.
WEST GERMAN: Borussia Moenchengladbach 4, MSV Duisburg 1; Fortuna Dusseldorf 5, VfB Stuttgart 1; Borussia Dortmund 6, Hamburger SV 2; Bayern Munich 1, 1860 Munich 1; Arminia Bielefeld 4, Karlsruher SC 1; Eintracht Frankfurt 5, FC Nuremberg 0; FC Cologne 2, FC Kaiserslautern 2; Bayer Uerdingen 1, VfL Bochum 0; Schalke 04 3, Bayer Leverkusen 1.

Aird may have missed his own bus

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

If you are a Billy Aird supporter be on the bus that leaves either London or Liverpool for the Aston Villa Sports Centre today. No fares, please. It is a free ride (Aird is shelling out £1,300) but you will be required to shout your head off as your hero tries to lift the vacant British heavyweight title while Gordon Ferris, of Enniskillen, very much a Brummie now, tries to make his face resemble the back of a bus.

Ferris believes that the 35-year-old London publican is not only pouring his money down the spill pan but may have missed the bus as well. For a year ago Ferris beat him on points. Still, if you like a good sing-song. Nor was Ferris's victory as clear-cut as all that.

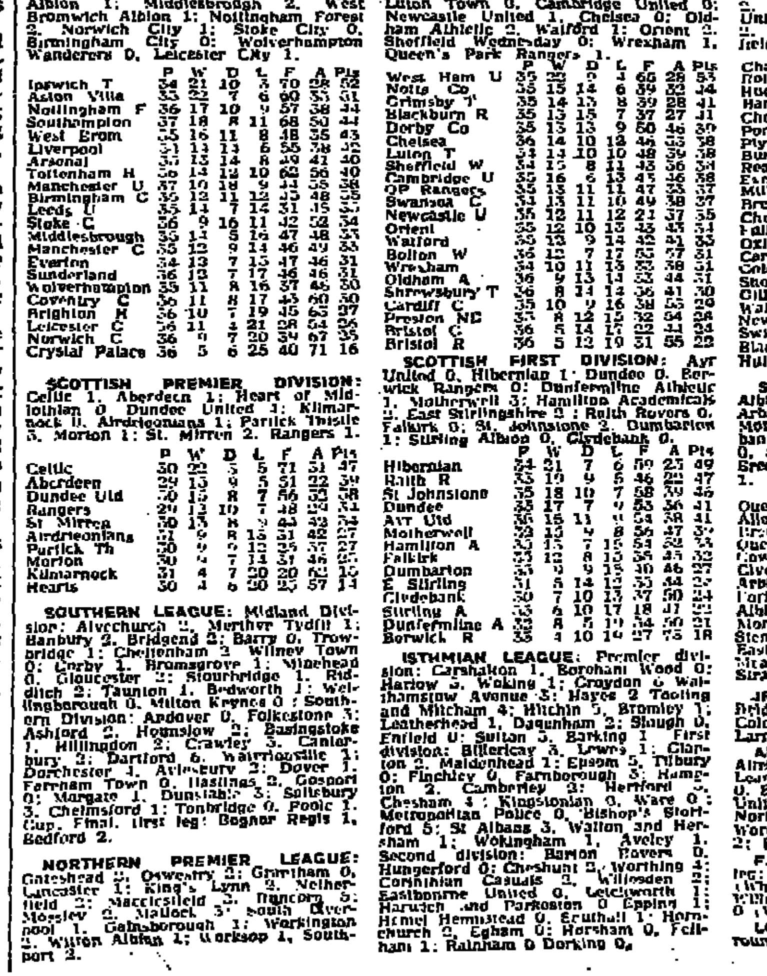
Though Ferris possibly hits harder and is six years younger, he does not know as much as the old pro, who has had 22 wins, 13 losses and five draws against Ferris's 15 wins and four defeats. One of these four defeats was at the big hands of Stan McDermott, who has Canadian pine floor-boards quaking at the prospect of Big Stan hitting them full in the face. Which was what happened the next time they met.

Aird has had a few bright patches in his 10-year slog: as when he floored John L. Gardner in the first round, laid into an unbeaten Denton Ruddock, fought the good fight against Alfredo Evangelista and beat Tony Moore, who on his last sighting was vastly improved.

Yet there is a question mark over Aird's temperament which does not seem too suited to tucking in the jaw and getting the nose down to the wheel. For instance, after putting Gardner down in the first round, he gave up in the fifth. He blamed lack of fitness. He was three years younger then.

He says he is good and ready for this one. He is at his lightest, too: 14st 3lb. All the same, he has a tendency to flop on the big occasion. I expect that, after the big men have propped each other up for long periods, the odds will lean towards the younger one.

Weekend fixtures and tables



FIRST DIVISION: Arsenal 1, Liverpool 0; Aston Villa 2, Southampton 1; Coventry City 0, Tottenham Hotspur 1; Crystal Palace 0, Leeds United 1; Everton 0, Manchester United 1; Ipswich Town 4, Sunderland 1; Manchester City 1, Brighton and Hove Albion 1; Middlesbrough 2, West Bromwich Albion 1; Nottingham Forest 2, Norwich City 1; Stoke City 0, Birmingham City 0; Wolverhampton Wanderers 0, Leicester City 1.

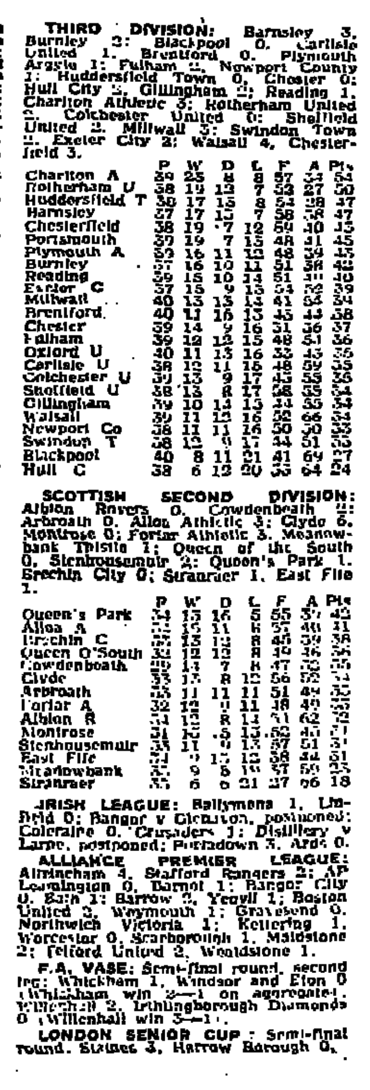
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ipswich T	34	21	10	3	70	28	52
Aston Villa	35	22	7	6	60	35	51
Nottingham F	36	17	10	9	57	38	44
Southampton	37	18	8	11	68	50	44
West Brom	35	16	11	8	48	35	43
Liverpool	32	13	13	6	55	38	39
Arsenal	35	13	14	8	49	41	40
Tottenham H	36	14	12	10	62	56	40
Manchester U	37	10	18	9	44	35	38
Birmingham C	35	12	11	12	45	48	35
Leeds U	35	14	7	14	31	45	35
Stoke C	36	9	16	11	42	52	34
Middlesbrough	35	14	5	16	47	48	33
Manchester C	35	12	9	14	46	49	33
Everton	34	12	7	15	47	46	31
Sunderland	36	12	7	17	46	46	31
Wolverhampton	35	11	8	16	37	46	30
Coventry C	36	11	8	17	43	60	30
Brighton H	36	10	7	19	45	63	27
Leicester C	36	11	4	21	28	54	26
Norwich C	36	9	7	20	39	67	25
Crystal Palace	36	5	6	25	40	71	16

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION: Celtic 1, Aberdeen 1; Heart of Midlothian 0, Dundee United 1; Kilmarnock 0, Airdrieonians 1; Partick Thistle 3, Morton 1; St. Mirren 2, Rangers 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Celtic	30	22	3	5	71	31	47
Aberdeen	29	15	9	5	51	22	39
Dundee Utd	30	15	8	7	56	32	38
Rangers	29	12	10	7	48	29	34
St Mirren	30	13	8	9	43	43	34
Airdrieonians	31	9	9	13	31	42	27
Partick Th	30	9	9	12	35	37	27
Morton	30	9	7	14	31	46	25
Kilmarnock	31	4	7	20	20	62	15
Hearts	30	4	6	20	25	57	14

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland Division: Alvechurch 2, Merthyr Tydfil 1; Banbury 2, Bridgend 2; Barry 0, Trowbridge 1; Cheltenham 2, Witney Town 0; Corby 1, Bromsgrove 1; Minehead 0, Gloucester 2; Stourbridge 1, Redditch 2; Taunton 1, Bedworth 1; Wellingborough 0, Milton Keynes 0. Southern Division: Andover 0, Folkestone 3; Ashford 2, Hounslow 2; Basingstoke 1, Hillingdon 2; Crawley 3, Canterbury 2; Dartford 6, Waterlooville 1; Dorchester 1, Aylesbury 2; Dover 1, Fareham Town 0, Hastings 2, Gosport 0; Margate 1, Dunstable 3; Salisbury 3, Chelmsford 1; Tonbridge 0, Poole 1. Cup, Final, first leg: Bognor Regis 1, Bedford 2.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Gateshead 2, Oswestry 2; Grantham 0, Lancaster 1; King's Lynn 2, Netherfield 2; Macclesfield 2, Runcorn 5; Mossley 2, Matlock 3; South Liverpool 1, Gainsborough 1; Workington 2, Witton Albion 1; Worksop 1, Southport 2.



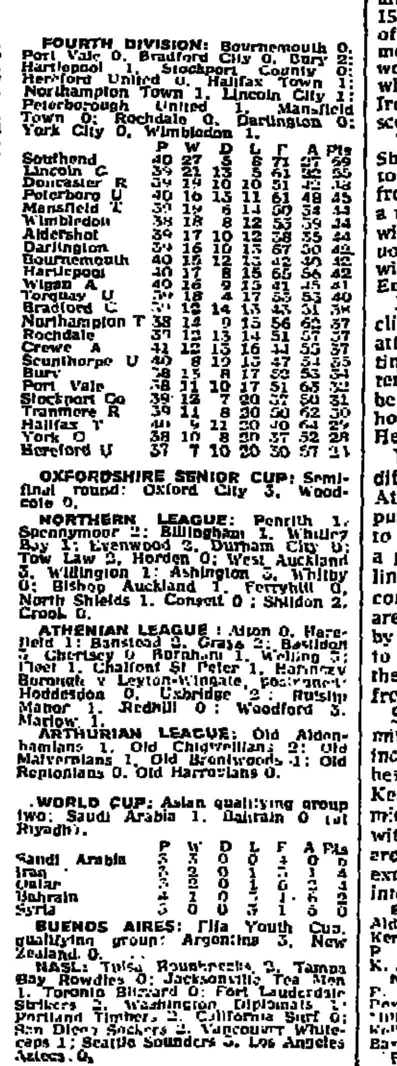
SECOND DIVISION: Blackburn Rovers 0, Notts County 0; Bolton Wanderers 1, West Ham United 1; Bristol Rovers 2, Preston North End 0; Cardiff City 2, Shrewsbury Town 2; Derby County 1, Bristol City 0; Grimsby Town 1, Swansea City 0; Luton Town 0, Cambridge United 0; Newcastle United 1, Chelsea 0; Oldham Athletic 2, Watford 1; Orient 2, Sheffield Wednesday 0; Wrexham 1, Queen's Park Rangers 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
West Ham U	35	22	9	4	66	28	53
Notts Co	35	15	14	6	39	32	44
Grimsby T	35	14	13	8	39	28	41
Blackburn R	35	13	15	7	37	27	41
Derby Co	35	13	13	9	50	46	39
Chelsea	36	14	10	12	46	35	38
Luton T	34	14	10	10	48	39	38
Sheffield W	34	15	8	11	43	36	38
Cambridge U	35	16	6	13	45	46	38
QP Rangers	35	13	11	11	47	33	37
Swansea C	34	13	11	10	49	38	37
Newcastle U	35	12	11	12	21	37	35
Orient	35	12	10	13	43	43	34
Watford	35	13	9	14	42	41	35
Bolton W	36	12	7	17	53	57	31
Wrexham	34	10	11	13	33	38	31
Oldham A	36	9	13	14	33	44	31
Shrewsbury T	36	8	14	14	36	41	30
Cardiff C	35	10	9	16	38	53	29
Preston NE	35	8	12	15	32	54	28
Bristol C	36	5	14	17	22	41	24
Bristol R	36	5	12	19	31	55	22

SCOTTISH FIRST DIVISION: Ayr United 0, Hibernian 1; Dundee 0, Berwick Rangers 0; Dunfermline Athletic 1, Motherwell 3; Hamilton Academicals 2, East Stirlingshire 3; Raith Rovers 0, Falkirk 0; St. Johnstone 2, Dumbarton 1; Stirling Albion 0, Clydebank 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hibernian	34	21	7	6	59	25	49
Raith R	35	19	9	7	46	22	47
St Johnstone	35	18	10	7	58	39	46
Dundee	33	17	7	9	53	36	41
Ayr Utd	35	15	11	9	54	38	41
Motherwell	32	15	9	8	56	47	39
Hamilton A	33	13	7	13	54	52	33
Falkirk	33	12	8	13	35	45	32
Dumbarton	33	9	9	15	40	46	27
E Stirling	31	5	14	12	33	44	24
Clydebank	30	7	10	13	37	50	24
Stirling A	33	6	10	17	18	47	22
Dunfermline A	32	8	5	19	34	50	21
Berwick R	33	4	10	19	27	75	18

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Carshalton 1, Boreham Wood 0; Harlow 3, Woking 1; Croydon 6, Walthamstow Avenue 3; Hayes 2, Tooting and Mitcham 4; Hitchin 5, Bromley 1; Leatherhead 1, Dagenham 2; Slough 0, Enfield 0; Sutton 3, Barking 1. First division: Billericay 3, Lewes 1; Clapton 2, Maidenhead 1; Epsom 5, Tilbury 0; Finchley 0, Farnborough 3; Hampton 2, Camberley 3; Hertford 3, Chesham 4; Kingstonian 0, Ware 0; Metropolitan Police 0, Bishop's Stortford 5; St Albans 3, Walton and Hersham 1; Wokingham 1, Aveley 1. Second division: Barton Rovers 0, Hungerford 0; Cheshunt 2, Worthing 4; Corinthian Casuals 2, Willesden 2; Eastbourne United 0, Letchworth 1; Harwich and Parkeston 0, Epping 1; Hemel Hempstead 0, Egham 0; Horsham 0, Feltham 1; Rainham 0, Dorking 0.



THIRD DIVISION: Barnsley 3, Burnley 2; Blackpool 0, Carlisle United 1; Brentford 0, Plymouth Argyle 1; Fulham 2, Newport County 1; Huddersfield Town 0, Chester 0; Hull City 2, Gillingham 2; Reading 1, Charlton Athletic 3; Rotherham United 2, Colchester United 0; Sheffield United 2, Millwall 3; Swindon Town 2, Exeter City 2; Walsall 4, Chesterfield 3.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Charlton A	39	23	8	8	57	34	54
Rotherham U	38	19	12	7	53	27	50
Huddersfield T	38	17	13	8	54	28	47
Barnsley	37	17	13	7	58	38	47
Chesterfield	38	19	7	12	59	40	45
Portsmouth	37	19	7	11	48	41	45
Plymouth A	39	16	11	12	48	39	43
Burnley	37	16	10	11	51	38	42
Reading	39	15	10	14	51	51	40
Exeter C	37	15	9	13	54	52	39
Millwall	40	13	13	14	41	54	39
Brentford	40	11	16	13	45	44	38
Chester	39	14	9	16	31	36	37
Fulham	39	12	12	15	48	51	36
Oxford U	40	11	13	16	33	45	35
Carlisle U	38	12	11	15	48	59	35
Colchester U	39	13	9	17	45	55	35
Sheffield U	38	13	8	17	58	55	34
Gillingham	39	10	14	15	34	55	34
Walsall	39	11	12	16	52	66	34
Newport Co	38	11	11	16	50	50	33
Swindon T	38	12	9	17	44	51	33
Blackpool	40	8	11	21	41	69	27
Hull C	38	6	12	20	33	64	24

SCOTTISH SECOND DIVISION: Albion Rovers 0, Cowdenbeath 2; Arbroath 0, Alloa Athletic 3; Clyde 6, Montrose 0; Forfar Athletic 3, Meadowbank Thistle 1; Queen of the South 0, Stenhousemuir 2; Queen's Park 1, Brechin City 0; Stranraer 1, East Fife 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Queen's Park	34	13	16	5	55	37	42
Alloa A	34	15	11	8	57	40	41
Brechin C	33	13	12	8	45	39	38
Queen O'South	33	12	12	9	49	36	36
Cowdenbeath	29	14	7	8	47	[illegible]	35
Clyde	33	13	8	12	56	52	34
Arbroath	33	11	11	11	51	49	33
Forfar A	32	12	9	11	48	49	33
Albion R	33	12	8	13	51	62	32
Montrose	31	13	5	13	52	40	31
Stenhousemuir	33	11	9	13	57	51	31
East Fife	34	9	13	12	38	44	31
Meadowbank	33	9	5	19	37	59	23
Stranraer	33	6	6	21	27	66	18

IRISH LEAGUE: Ballymena 1, Linfield 0; Bangor v Glentoran, postponed; Coleraine 0, Crusaders 1; Distillery v Larne, postponed; Portadown 3, Ards 0.

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Altrincham 4, Stafford Rangers 2; AP Leamington 0, Barnet 1; Bangor City 0, Bath 1; Barrow 2, Yeovil 1; Boston United 2, Weymouth 1; Gravesend 0, Northwich Victoria 1; Kettering 1, Worcester 0, Scarborough 1, Maidstone 2; Telford United 2, Wealdstone 1.

F.A. VASE: Semi-final round, second leg: Whickham 1, Windsor and Eton 0 (Whickham win 3—1 on aggregate), Willenhall 2, Irthlingborough Diamonds 0 (Willenhall win 3—1).

LONDON SENIOR CUP: Semi-final round, Staines 3, Harrow Borough 0.

FOURTH DIVISION: Bournemouth 0, Port Vale 0; Bradford City 0, Bury 2; Hartlepool 1, Stockport County 0; Hereford United 0, Halifax Town 1; Northampton Town 1, Lincoln City 1; Peterborough United 1, Mansfield Town 0; Rochdale 0, Darlington 0; York City 0, Wimbledon 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Southend	40	27	5	8	71	27	59
Lincoln C	39	21	13	5	61	22	55
Doncaster R	39	19	10	10	51	42	48
Peterboro U	40	16	13	11	61	48	45
Mansfield T	39	19	6	14	60	54	44
Wimbledon	38	18	8	12	53	39	44
Aldershot	39	17	10	12	58	35	44
Darlington	39	16	10	13	67	50	42
Bournemouth	40	15	12	13	42	40	42
Hartlepool	40	17	8	15	65	56	42
Wigan A	40	16	9	15	41	45	41
Torquay U	39	18	4	17	55	53	40
Bradford C	39	12	14	13	43	51	38
Northampton T	38	14	9	15	56	62	37
Rochdale	39	12	13	14	51	57	37
Crewe A	41	12	13	16	41	55	37
Scunthorpe U	40	8	19	13	47	54	35
Bury	38	13	8	17	52	53	34
Port Vale	38	11	10	17	51	65	32
Stockport Co	39	12	7	20	37	50	31
Tranmere R	39	11	8	20	50	62	30
Halifax T	40	9	11	20	30	64	29
York C	38	10	8	20	37	52	28
Hereford U	37	7	10	20	30	57	24

OXFORDSHIRE SENIOR CUP: Semi-final round: Oxford City 3, Woodcote 0.

NORTHERN LEAGUE: Penrith 1, Spennymoor 2; Billingham 1, Whitley Bay 1; Evenwood 2, Durham City 0; Tow Law 2, Horden 0; West Auckland 3, Willington 1; Ashington 3, Whitby 0; Bishop Auckland 1, Ferryhill 0; North Shields 1, Consett 0; Shildon 2, Crook 0.

ATHENIAN LEAGUE: Alton 0, Harefield 1; Banstead 2, Grays 2; Basildon 2, Chertsey 0; Burnham 1, Welling 5; Fleet 1, Chalfont St Peter 1; Hatfield v Borough v Leyton-Wingate, postponed; Hoddesdon 0, Uxbridge 2; Ruislip Manor 1, Redhill 0; Woodford 3, Marlow 1.

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Old Aldenhamians 1, Old Chigwellians 2; Old Malvernians 1, Old Brentwoods 1; Old Reptonians 0, Old Harrovians 0.

WORLD CUP: Asian qualifying group two: Saudi Arabia 1, Bahrain 0 (at Riyadh).

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Saudi Arabia	3	3	0	0	4	0	6
Iran	3	2	0	1	3	1	4
Qatar	3	2	0	1	6	2	4
Bahrain	4	1	0	3	1	6	2
Syria	3	0	0	3	1	5	0

BUENOS AIRES: Fifa Youth Cup, qualifying group: Argentina 3, New Zealand 0.

NASL: Tulsa Roughnecks 2, Tampa Bay Rowdies 0; Jacksonville Tea Men 1, Toronto Blizzard 0; Fort Lauderdale Strikers 2, Washington Diplomats 1; Portland Timbers 2, California Surf 0; San Diego Sockers 2, Vancouver Whitecaps 1; Seattle Sounders 3, Los Angeles Aztecs 0.

Rugby Union

Doubt over Rose's availability to tour

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

Beset already by problems in the front row, the England selectors, whose team for the tour of Argentina will be announced on Thursday morning, may have to reconcile themselves to being without the full back, Marcus Rose, England's latest number one. In that position, who is in the second year of a land economy course at Cambridge University, is due to sit important examinations during the tour, for which the team will depart on May 11.

It was reported several weeks ago that Rose and Huw Davies, the England stand-off, had been given clearance to tour by the Cambridge authorities. I understand that there are no problems as far as Davies is concerned, but the latest state of play regarding Rose does not sound at all encouraging from the standpoint of English rugby. Because his absence from the tour party would be such a sorry loss, one hopes that those who order such affairs at the university may be able to make alternative arrangements for him.

Happily, there are no problems about the availability of "Dusty" Hare, who lost his place to Rose for the past two championship matches. But in the event of Rose being unable to travel the selectors have no candidate with an irrefutable claim for the second full back position.

The Moseley captain, Martin Cooper, who won 10 England caps as a stand-off, and another as a centre in New Zealand, is a versatile, experienced performer who has had a good season for his club. His form, against London Scottish, was inspected on Saturday by one of the national selectors, John Young. My information is that he did not do much to enhance his claims.

Ian Metcalfe, a Cambridge Blue and an England B player, would have been strongly in the running on his form of a year or two ago.

Now he cannot command a regular place for Sale, who have preferred Sid Lowden, the promising Under-23 squad member. Other candidates are Philip Cue, of Bristol, who was evoking some memories of Alastair Hignell earlier in the season, but not too many, I have to say, on the last occasion I watched him.

The Bristol stand-off, David Sorrell, has had plenty of experience at full back, and there is Billy Bushell, of Harlequins and London. But, week in, week out, probably the soundest player of all in the position is Brian Patrick, of Gosforth. Patrick first played for the North at the age of 17 and, because he has been around a long time, one tends now to think of him as something of a veteran. But he remains comfortably on the right side of 30, he does the nitty-gritty jobs well and, though not notably fast, he compensates by knowing just where to lend himself to his three-quarter line.



Rose: Argentina may not be on his horizon.

Bandwagon rolls over wind-blown Nottingham

By Peter West
Nottingham 3 Gosforth 23

By this impressive victory at Beeston in the quarter-final round of the John Player cup, Gosforth served notice that they ought to be installed at least as joint favourites to win the trophy for a third time. Their present side, which on Saturday was short of two first choice loose forwards, looks a better balanced combination than those which won the competition in 1976 and 1977. Moseley will have their work cut out to win at Gosforth next Saturday and the holders, Leicester—provided that they can first overcome London Scottish at the Athletic Ground—would then at the climax find foemen worthy of their steel at scrummage and maul.

The story at Nottingham is clear-cut enough. Gosforth gave their hosts first use of a stiff south-westerly but Nottingham needed far more than three points in the bank when they turned round to face the elements. Their centre, Bennett, landed one penalty goal but missed two others that were eminently kickable. His midfield colleague, Northard, missed another from longer range.

These failures may not have affected the result but Gosforth had a lot less to do as they set their formidable bandwagon to roll. And roll is the operative word. Rolling mauls, a solid scrummage—as compared with Nottingham's which so often was under pressure—and a dominant performance at the lineout where Bainbridge ruled affairs after a muted first half against Nixon. Behind all this Young's choice of play at scrum half remained as knowing as ever and the backs accepted their chances with efficient zest. The side exuded an impression of knowing where it wanted to go and exactly how to get there.

Gosforth have three good centres in the persons of Breakey, McMillan and McDowell. The last-named now played on the left wing with enough pace, skill and strength to make it difficult for the injured Gustard to get his place back. There was never a doubt about the outcome during a second half in which Gosforth scored five penalty goals and two tries. Johnson kicked two of the penalties and so did Patrick, on one occasion with an enormous left-footed blow from his own 10 metres line. Young got the last of them but missed another well within his compass.

The tries were splendidly executed but there was an element of luck in the build-up to both of them. McDowell got the first after an ambitious drop shot by Johnson had been charged down and the ball came back into the stand-off's hands. Young set up a short side move and McMillan made the running before delivering a scoring pass.

The second occurred when Nottingham, in the course of a brave rally, were exploring the open spaces, which seemed their only hope of an unlikely salvation. Their lively full back, Bedford, saw his flip pass rebound off Holdstock's shoulder directly into the hands of McMillan who had a clear run to the line from 65 metres out.

NOTTINGHAM: B. Bedford; S. Holdstock, M. Northard, T. Bennett, C. Pitts; S. Hamilton, D. Hunt; A. Robinson, J. Elliott, N. Asquith, P. Nixon, M. Grindle, P. Cook, R. Salmon, I. Adamson (captain).
GOSFORTH: B. Patrick; S. Archer, R. Breakey, A. McMillan, N. McDowell; D. Johnson, M. Young; C. White (captain), R. Cunningham, J. Bell, T. Roberts, S. Bainbridge, I. Richardson, P. Simpson, S. Smith.
Referee: D. I. Williams (Hertfordshire).

Racing

Royal Stuart in good shape for Aintree

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

Philip Blacker stole the show at Newbury on Saturday by winning both the valuable Greenall Group Hurdle, on Skinflint, and the Kennet Handicap Steeplechase, on Bideford. But after the programme had finished, Blacker had to be content with finishing only second on Royal Mail, his intended mount for next Saturday's Grand National, in what can only be described as a somewhat unorthodox preparation which his trainer, Stan Mellor, devised for those big fences at Aintree.

Along with his two stable-companions, Royal Stuart and Pacify, who are also under orders for the National, Royal Mail galloped two and a half miles over hurdles. Towards the end of this work-out, it was Royal Stuart who was in complete command, and it was impossible not to admire the way he went.

Royal Stuart was ridden by his big race jockey, Hywel Davies, who will be taking part in his first National, and Davies and Mellor were understandably delighted with his performance. By finishing fourth in the National last year, Royal Stuart proved that the Aintree fences held no terrors for him, and after seeing him work in such sparkling style, I feel bound to suggest that, at 33—1, he looks a sporting bet to finish in the first four again.

Mellor is praying for good weather between now and next Saturday in the Liverpool area to enable the course there to recover from the recent soaking it has suffered. Mellor, referring to both Royal Mail and Royal Stuart, said: "They may as well stay at home if it is soft, for all the chance they would have on that sort of ground."

Another runner with a Royal prefix, Royal Exile, has a good chance of finishing in the National money. His trainer, Fred Winter, who has twice ridden and twice trained the winner, said: "He is well and I'm convinced that he will last it out. Furthermore, he is a clever jumper. He needs to be, because he is a shade on the small side, but so was Team Spirit, and that did not stop him."

Winter, speaking after he had won the last race at Newbury with Black Rod, said he had contemplated asking John Francome to ride Royal Exile, but upon reflection had decided against it. "It would mean him carrying at least 6lb overweight, and John has never ridden him," he said. "In the circumstances I think that it would be not only unfair, but also unwise to take Ben de Haan off, especially as he has a cool head and rides with a length of leg that is ideal around Aintree."

Josh Gifford was another trainer with whom I discussed the National and he also had encouraging things to say about his runner, Aldaniti. "He is very, very well and I believe that he is the class horse at the weights," he said. The Findon trainer went on to say that he had no qualms about Aldaniti lasting the equine equivalent of yesterday's London marathon, only about him getting over the first three fences safely, as he is such a bold jumper and has a tendency to be a little free early on.

"Once he's over them, I'll relax," Gifford went on, which is more than many will be doing, and none more so than Aldaniti's rider, Bob Champion, for whom the race, whatever the result, can only amount to a dream come true, when one remembers that his life was endangered by cancer 12 months ago.

Rambling Jack, who emerged as a leading National contender after winning at Ayr in January, has developed heat in a leg and will miss Aintree. And his jockey, Geordie Dun, may now ride Ken Oliver's other National hope, Three to One.

Three to One. Jack of Trumps will be another absentee. He goes for the Sun Ratings Steeplechase instead.

STATE OF GOING (official): Hexham: heavy. Leicester: soft. Folkestone: soft. Ayr: heavy. Tomorrow: Sandown Park: good to soft.

Levy Board purchase shares in Moorestyle

By Michael Seely

Twenty five shares in Moorestyle, the 1980 racehorse of the year, have been purchased by the Horserace Betting Levy Board. From 1982 onwards Moorestyle will be standing at the National Stud. The price paid to Moorestyle's owners, Moores International Furnishings of Wetherby places a value of £2.2m on the four-year-old.

Moorestyle's early season programme will include the Duke of York Stakes, the King's Stand Stakes and the July Cup. It has been agreed between the company's chairman, George Moore and Lord Porchester, chairman of the Stallion Advisory Committee, that Moorestyle will race in the firm's colours again this year.

Sir Desmond Plummer, the chairman of the Levy Board, has expressed his gratitude to Mr Moore for accepting a bid lower than several made from abroad. Mr Moore said: "I am proud to have this opportunity of ensuring the success of a British company with the British racing industry."

Robert Armstrong is delighted not only with the fact that he will be continuing to train Moorestyle, but also with the progress that the horse has made. "Moorestyle has done extremely well from three to four. And we intend to try him over a mile later in the season when races like the Sussex Stakes and the Prix du Moulin are possible targets."

As anticipated the draw decided the result of the William Hill Lincoln Handicap at Doncaster on Saturday. The moment the stalls were [illegible] for the far side of the track. Roy Cochrane on Saher was able to let his horse run from his draw (nine). "I rode the horse all wrong as Saher needs to be held up. But we were going so well that I had to let him stride on", Cochrane said. Both he and Ron Sheather, the winning trainer, are to be congratulated.

Commiserations are due, however, to Guy Harwood and Greville Starkey, the trainer and jockey of [illegible]

[illegible]

Rec Hollinshead has been quiet [illegible] and Nocturnal Boy has also been shining in his work at home. But Nice Value still looks a sound each-way bet.

At Leicester Harwood can capture the Simon de Montfort Maiden Stakes with Ridgefield. The Sussex trainer's horses are jumping out of their skins and Ridgefield is expected to be one of the stable's early winners.

Sale make their point but too late

By Tom Cooban
Sale 15 Leicester 6

Sale were desperately keen to beat Leicester to prove, at least to their own satisfaction, that the better team lost the John Player Cup quarter-final game. They did so decisively at Brooklands on Saturday, by three tries and a dropped goal to Leicester's two penalty goals, but events were not quite as they might seem.

Leicester's replacements for the absent Woodward, Cusworth, Wheeler, Redfern and Collington played well individually but teamwork was affected. The pack, dominant in the first half, fell away when an injury to Ian Smith brought Gavins, a prop forward, into the back row as replacement.

In the first half, when Leicester's forward supremacy was helped by a strong wind, Kenney, at scrum half, used his opportunities shrewdly. Dodson showed his potential at stand-off and the centres, Dodge and Hall, ran the ball speedily.

Remembering that his four penalty goals and a conversion defeated them at Leicester, Sale put Hare under heavy pressure which he survived. His experience enabled him to sense his opponents' intentions and he had much to do with their first half subjugation. Another luminary of the international scene, Steve Smith, kept Sale in contention and he directed their second half surge to victory.

In a hard fought but featureless first half a penalty by Hare was the only score. When he repeated this success early in the second half Sale got the message and went in to action. Better possession gave Smith more opportunity. Phillips, his stand-off, and the centres, Wright and Stansfield, ran on to passes with more confidence. A run by Phillips, carried on by Lawson, a fast and eager loose forward, failed to give Oldham a try because the final pass was forward but from the ensuing scrum the ball was swung along the line to Poole who scored in the opposite corner.

An ineffective passing movement started by Leicester on their own line allowed Sale to break through and Phillips to scramble another try, which he followed with the dropped goal. Sale's final try, scored by Davidson, again resulted from passing across the field in which forwards and backs were joyously united. Had Metcalfe been on target with the conversions or several penalty awards, the score would have been a Sale bonanza.

SALE: I. Metcalf, H. Poole, A. Wright, P. Stansfield, B. Oldham, A. Phillips, S. Smith, P. Brough, K. Rabbit, T. Simon (captain), R. Trickey, J. McKie, D. Davidson, P. Sherratt, A. Lawson.
LEICESTER: W. Hare; K. Williams, P. Dodge, R. Hall, R. Barnwell; I. Dodson, S. Kenny; P. Cowling (captain), C. Tressler, W. Richardson, N. Joyce, D. Waddingham, S. Johnson, N. Jackson, I. Smith (rep. D. Gavins).
Referee: P. Hughes (Manchester).

Scottish have good reason for confidence in Cup

By David Hands
London Scottish 15 Moseley 11

The Scottish will bear London's pride into the semi-final round of the John Player Cup with confidence enhanced after beating their fellow semi-finalists, Moseley, at the Athletic Ground on Saturday. There will be changes of personnel in both sides before next weekend but, even allowing a certain reserve for players whose minds may be on higher things, Scottish have justifiable cause for confidence.

They won by two goals and a penalty goal to two tries and a dropped goal, an entertaining game, well-refereed and never lacking in commitment or skill. The most surprising aspect of their success was the way they dominated the scrummages and shared the lineout with Moseley's accomplished and experienced Field and Ayre. Moseley, with two second choices in the front row, desperately need to raise their game at the set pieces if they are to survive against Gosforth next Saturday.

Moreover, Scottish, even without McHarg (relaxing in the company of the third XV) and Biggar (relaxing with the Co-Optimists in Hongkong), came to gradual superiority in the loose. With Tedford snapping at their heels and Gordon looking sharp in the centre, the only worry must be that the London merit table leaders do not score the points their geographical dominance warrants. With three-quarters of the game gone they trailed by five points; their margins of victory all season have tended to be economic, if not downright mean. The spectator who, deep into injury time, cried earnestly: "It's twenty to five, referee", was only expressing the frustrations of a crowd who so often have seen their side in a position where success can still be stolen away.

Despite a splendid all-round game by Gourlay, Scottish will hope their leading points scorer, Grant, will have recovered from the injury sustained in their cup quarter-final against Gloucester. Moseley will have a difficult decision to make at centre, where they lost Watson-Jones on Saturday with a badly gashed forehead which required stitching. His fitness may be doubtful and his replacement, Akenhead, is also unfit.

Archer, a tidy stand-in for Perry, opened the scoring with a dropped goal after a flying Moseley wedge had carried play to the Scottish line. Tedford scissored with Gordon from a tapped penalty for the Scot to slice through and hand on to Hume for a well-worked try improved by King. Before half-time, however, Cooper had appeared twice in a move covering 60 metres and Thomas, with a subtle change of pace, squeezed in at the corner.

Moseley stretched their one-point advantage shortly after Watson-Jones left the field. Snappy passing, with Cooper making the extra man, put Parker over. Neither Moseley try was converted by Cooper, which proved vital. Friell, in scoring the second Scottish try, ran round near enough to the posts for Gourlay to kick the goal and the full back added a penalty for good measure.

LONDON SCOTTISH: D. Gourlay; A. Friell (captain), R. Gordon, J. Hume, G. Wood; R. King, A. Tedford; D. Butcher, I. Kirk, J. Fraser, A. Rhodes, K. Budge, G. McQuater, R. Drummond, P. Corbett.
MOSELEY: M. Cooper (captain); A. Thomas, A. Watson-Jones (rep. N. Fairlie), J. Desborough, M. Parker; N. Archer, S. Morley; R. Bagnall, P. Millington, S. Acaster, R. Field, B. Ayre, N. Jeavons, J. Beale, D. Nutt.
Referee: R. Russell (London).

Invention earns no reward

By a Special Correspondent
The Army 6 RAF 4

The lack of sparkle in services rugby this season was amply demonstrated at Twickenham on Saturday when the Army beat the RAF by two penalty goals to a try. All three matches in this year's competition have reflected a safety-first approach and it is tragic that the RAF, who produced much of the invention, should collect the wooden spoon.

It was no surprise that the Army refused to take risks: they were beaten 18-11 to good ball from the lineout, largely by the menacing figure of Larter at the front and the agility of Coptcoat at the tail. Their scrummaging was spoiled by Owen's relentless harassment of Davies

Despite this shortage of possession, Shuttleworth persisted with his low, cross-field kicks and so exchanged the ball for 20 metres of ground. Nevertheless, the Army were in opposition territory long enough for Shuttleworth to kick two good penalties.

The only try of the match was a superb movement. Orwin went on a typical, barging run towards the posts. The ball popped out to Owen, who sent Paddon blind and Aherne was at the stand-off's shoulder to take the ball over the line with two men outside him. But with 15 minutes to go, the safety-first approach proved the RAF's downfall. They were awarded a penalty under the Army posts and, had they run the ball, they would surely have forced their way over. But Paddon took a place kick and missed when it seemed easier to score.

THE ARMY: Cpl A. Chapple; Cpl K. A'hearne, Cpl P. Lytollis, Sgt S. G. Jackson, Cpl H. Glean, Capt G. Shuttleworth, Sgt Instructor G. Davies, Sgt R. P. Tarr, Cpl H. Elkan, Cfn S. Titterington, Major J. M. Bowles (captain), Capt J. Campbell-Lamerton, Cpl C. Christopher, Sgt P. Griffiths, Lt C. Richardson.
ROYAL AIR FORCE: Cpl P. Bate; Fg Offr R. Allison, Cpl P. Aherne, J Tech G. Williams (rep. J Tech P. Bruckner), Cpl N. Coyne, Fg Offr A. Paddon (captain), J Tech R. Owen, Cpl M. Jones, Cpl A. Rust, A/C M. Whitcombe, Cpl N. Spencer, Flt Lt P. J. Larter, Flt Lt M. Coptcoat, Flt Lt G. Thomas, J Tech J. Orwin.
Referee: B. Abrahams (East Midlands).

Rugby Union

JOHN PLAYER CUP: Quarter-final round: Nottingham 3, Gosforth 23.
INTER-SERVICES TOURNAMENT: The Army 6, RAF 4.
CLUB MATCHES: Bath 18, Richmond 25; Birmingham 9, Cheltenham 13; Blackheath 12, Bedford 6; Boroughmuir 17, Ayr 6; Bradford 7, Wasps 36; Bridgend 19, Ebbw Vale 3; Broughton Park 36, St Helens 6; Coventry 23, Maesteg 16; Edinburgh Wanderers 3, Birkenhead Park 7; Fylde 3, West of Scotland 11; Gala 22, Hawick 9; Glamorgan Wanderers 6, Pontypool 18; Gordonians 26, Hillhead 4; Headingley 31, New Brighton 4; Heriot's FP 7, Stewarts Melville FP 14; Huddersfield 18, Durham 12; Hull and ER 20, Halifax 9; Langholm 24, Glasgow High 9; Liverpool 3, Harrogate 7; Llanelli 17, Neath 11; London Scottish 15, Moseley 11; London Welsh 6, Harlequins 9; Manchester 6, Orrell 9; Morley 22, Kendal 0; Morpeth 3, Hartlepool Rovers 9; Newbridge 9, Aberavon 35; Newport 15; Cardiff 15; Nuneaton 3, Cross Keys 6; Percy Park 0, Roundhay 43; Plymouth Albion 6, Exeter 9; Pontypridd 16, London Irish 10; Rosslyn Park 19; Bristol 37; Sale 15, Leicester 6; Saracens 11, Gloucester 12; Vale of Lune 12, Sheffield 3; Wakefield 11, Northern 19; Waterloo 6, Northampton 17; Wilmslow 0, Middlesbrough 7; Swansea 30, South Glamorgan Institute of Education 3.
HONGKONG: World seven-a-side tournament, preliminary rounds, group B: Barbarians 20, American Eagles 10; Barbarians 28, Western Samoa 6; Barbarians 28, South Korea 8. Group C: Co-Optimists 22, Indonesia 6; Co-Optimists 22, Singapore 3; Co-Optimists 16, Canada 4. Quarter-final round: Fiji 12, Canada 7; Barbarians 8, Argentine Pumas 6; Co-Optimists 23, Hongkong 0; Australia 38, Western Samoa 0. Semi-final round: Barbarians 10, Fiji 6; Australia 18, Co-Optimists 10. Final: Barbarians 12, Australia 10. Plate final: Tonga 22, Japan 16.

How Last Love conquered all in Paris

From Desmond Stoneham
French Racing Correspondent
Paris, March 29

Last Love was a surprise winner of the group three Prix Penelope at St Cloud on Saturday. This unfashionably bred filly was second into the straight and took over from Leandra entering the final furlong. She stayed on strongly under pressure to hold off Leandra, Landresse, who finished well, and Viverba, who had led into the straight.

Last Love ended 1980 by finishing fifth, a little over two lengths behind the winner, Tropicaro, in the Prix Marcel Boussac. However, Tropicaro won that race comfortably and seemed an obvious favourite on Saturday. She moved up from ninth to fifth on the turn, but could make little progress in the straight.

Tropicaro, who finished fifth, was beaten by three and a half lengths. Time may show that she has trained off, but it would be wise to reserve one's opinion until she has another chance on better conditions than the holding going which she encountered on Saturday.

Carmont won the Prix du President de la République (French Grand National) by a length from Gosse d'Hermitage at Auteuil today.

Textile millionaire Daniel Wildenstein's Ardfern looked best placed in the early stages to take the French turf's richest handicap, worth 500,000 francs ($100,000) to the winner.

Hexham NH

2.30 LOWGATE HURDLE (Selling Handicap: £520: 2m)
00- Main Event, 7-11-9 .. Wilkinson
0-0f Retaliation, 11-11-1 Thompson
000 Lord Melbourne, 7-10-11 Brooke
0n0 Bert's Courage, 8-10-7 .. Dickin
004 Menalist, 5-10-6 ...... Hanson
030 Otterden, 7-10-4 ...... Carvill
000 Glendyne, 5-10-3 .. Kettlewell
0-00 Double Wish, 5-10-2 .. Barnes
232 Caleta Prince, 13-10-1 Caldwell
-004 Barleycroft Star, 9-10-1 A. Brown
My Story, 10-10-0 .. Walford
000 Kirkby Lad, 7-10-0 .. C. Tinkler
404 Julie Simone, 6-10-0 .. Atkins
000 Floron, 7-10-0 .... P. Charlton
0p3 Henlow Gamble, 6-10-0 Miss Oliver
f00 Spartan Sparrow, 8-10-0 Miss Cross
Babus Brief, 11-10-0 .. Kersey
3-1 Caleta Prince, 4-1 Lord Melbourne, 5-1 Otterden, 13-2 Glendyne.

3.0 ANICK CHASE (Handicap: £992: 3½m)
430 Impus, 8-11-9 .... Pepper
111 Lucky Rew, 6-11-6 .. McIntyre
435 King Vulture, 8-11-6 Doughty
2/3 *Stag Party, 13-10-4 ......
040 Old Head, 9-10-4 ...... Craggs
442 Golden Express, 12-10-0 S. Charlton
2-1 King Vulture, 11-4 Lucky Rew, 100-30 Impus, 6—1 Old Head.

3.30 WARDEN HURDLE (Div I: Novices £467: 3m)
002 Dunaram, 6-11-5 .... Barnes
-020 Gay Lucky, 6-11-5 .. Redfern
022 Gold Shoveler, 6-11-5 C. Tinkler
Lofty Queen, 5-11-5 .. C. Grant
0p0 Marie Moss, 6-11-5 .. D. Atkins
/42- Red Well, 10-11-5 .. Hawkins
Rennis Bar, 9-11-5 McCormack
-000 Royal Minstrel, 6-11-5 McCaskill
0 Solomon Monday, 5-11-5 Lamb
01 Bally-Go, 4-11-3 ...... Tuck
000 Leonora, 4-10-7 ...... Walton
004 Sir Eamon, 4-10-7 .... Warner
3-1 Sir Eamon, 100-30 Bally-Go, 5-1 Gold Shoveler, 13-2 Gay Lucky.

4.0 CHASTERWOOD CHASE (Hunters: Amateurs: £408: 3m)
/14- Snow River, 10-12-8 .. Brewis
204 Cinchid, 10-12-5 .. Lemargue
342 Master Marmaduke, 8-12-5 Shiels
/pp- Ben Vrackie, 9-12-0 .. Thomson
/up Choral Prince, 9-12-0 .. Wilson
100- Flying Bleu, 8-12-0 .... Storey
4f Inkerman, 6-12-0 .... Baillie
f-p Mr Eskimo, 10-12-0 ...... Wade
Petroleum, 10-12-0 .... Goven
pp-p Polldoon, 8-12-0 ...... Walton
042- Weymouth Road, 11-12-0 Craggs
p0? Windfall Penny, 7-12-0 Reveley
11-4 Weymouth Road, 4-1 Inkerman, 5-1 Snow River, 13-2 Cinchid.

4.30 WARDEN HURDLE (Div II: Novices. £500: 2m)
413 Mizzenhead, 6-12-1 .... Tuck
034 After Shave, 5-11-5 .... Flint
060 Chrisarah, 8-11-6 .. Wilkinson
Conrack, 5-11-5 .... T. Davies
000 Fernshaw, 6-11-5 .... Dickin
Keron, 5-11-5 .... Balmer
g Latest Craze, 6-11-5 McCormack
3f0 Moygashel, 7-11-5 .. Kettlewell
203 Sandicliffe, 6-11-5 .. Thompson
0 Wild Rudolph, 6-11-5 .. Walton
0 Zanny Zest, 5-11-5 ...... Lamb
003 Fyghame, 4-10-7 .... Broughan
000 Miss Apollo, 4-10-7 P. Charlton
00 Palm Cross, 4-10-7 .. P. Barry
Shooler Prince, 4-10-7 C. Grant
13-8 Mizzenhead, 100-30 Fernshaw, 5-1 After Shave, 13-2 Chrisarah.

5.0 ACOMB CHASE (Novices: £940: 3m)
103 Estate Agent, 8-11-9 .... Tuck
20-f Blackhawk Star, 7-11-2 T. Dunn
00u Count Vronsky, 8-11-2 S. Charlton
00f Handycall, 9-11-2 .... —
0-04 Larry Bell, 7-11-2 .... Lamb
042 Nasir, 10-11-2 .... Crank
f20 Patient Knight, 8-11-2 .. Whyte
p03 Rannerdale, 7-11-2 J. Goulding
p40 Relkotime, 10-11-2 .. C. Tinkler
042 Spring Rocket, 7-11-2 .. Warner
000 Wrekin Pursuit, 10-11-2 Smith
00p White House Lad, 8-10-7 O'Connell
3-1 Estate Agent, 4-1 Blackhawk Star, 5-1 Nasir, 11-2 Spring Rocket.
*Doubtful runner.

HEXHAM NH SELECTIONS (By Our Racing Staff): 2.30 Lord Melbourne. 3.0 Stag Party. 3.30 Gold Shoveler. 4.0 Weymouth Road. 4.30 After Shave. 5.0 Estate Agent.

Leicester programme

2.15 KNIGHTON STAKES (2-y-o: £923: 5f)
3 Kiki Mouse, P. Kelleway, 8-5 .... Curant 15
5 Lockwood Girl, G. Hunter, 8-1 .... Cook 12
7 Saulingo Song, C. Benstead, 7-13 Swinburn 1
8 Epona's Grey, P. Haslam, 7-12 .. Leonard 11
9 Martini Time, D. Morley, 7-12 .. Duffield 3
10 Singing Sailor, C. Spares, 7-12 .. Johnson 5
11 Sweet for Days, R. Hannon, 7-12 McGlone 7 10
12 Fine Touch, P. Haslam, 7-10 .. Hodgson 7 7
13 Slane Sparkler, W. Wharton, 7-10 Payne 5 11
15 Alvem, R. Smyth, 7-9 ...... Dickie 7 9
16 Adderbury Lad, J. Townson, 7-8 Crossley 5 8
17 Superb Singer, K. Ivory, 7-8 .. Leason 4
18 Tell Tale Lass, W. Marshall, 7-6 R. Hills 7 16
19 Queensbury Star, D. Dale, 7-6 B. Jones 7 2
20 Broadway Lodge, C. Wildman, 7-4 .. Street 6
21 Tower Lady, G. Blum, 7-4 .... Hills 5 13
5-1 Lockwood Girl, 3-2 Kiki Mouse, 5-1 Alvem, 6-1 Saulingo Song, 7-1 Singing Sailor, 10-1 Tell Tale Lass, 12-1 Superb Singer, 14-1 Slane Sparkler, 16-1 others.

2.45 BILLESDON STAKES (Handicap: Selling: £658: 1m)
2 000-0 Touch of Class (B), R. Simpson, 4-9-13 Atkinson 6
3 0000- Best Tradition, M. Naughton, 4-9-12 Cauthen 5
4 0200- Roybirdie (B), G. Balding, 4-9-11 Carson 8
5 0004- Corven, W. Wightman, 4-9-11 .... Eddery 2
6 0040- Powder Horn (B), W. Elsey, 3-9-8 Wigham 1
7 4040- Burglars Mink, T. Taylor, 4-9-2 .. Seagrave 3
9 0000- Super Eagle, W. Marshall, 3-8-8 R. Hills 7 10
10 0000- Maurice's Tip, M. Tompkins, 3-6-5 Madden
11 0000- Record Wing, D. H. Jones, 3-6-5 Curant 4
12 0000- Pontet, D. Ancil, 3-8-2 ...... B. Jones 5 7
2-1 Roybirdie, 4-1 Best Tradition, 7-1 Burglars Mink, 6-1 Touch of Class, 8-1 Corven, 10-1 Powder Horn, 12-1 Super Eagle, 14-1 others.

3.15 WELFORD STAKES (Handicap: £2,449: 1¼m)
1 1002- Dilton Wood, H. Wragg, 4-10-0 .. Eddery 11
3 030-2 Davidgalaxy Affair, T. Yardley, 4-9-9 J. Mercer 5
6 1380- Aldeburgh Festival (D), D. Whelan, 5-9-6 Cook 12
7 0000- Tuthill Bond, N. Callaghan, 4-9-5 McGlone 7
8 /000- The Adrianstan, D. Hanley, 6-9-3 .. Weaver 3
9 1002- Constant Rose (CD), J. Harris, 5-9-2 Robinson 12
11 0-432 Stand Easy (D), W. Hastings-Bass, 4-9-2 Carson 2
12 4010- Mister Lucky, R. Hannon, 4-9-1 .. Starkey
13 2100- Long Cliffe, P. Felgate, 6-8-8 .... Miller 15
16 4023- Jebel Ali, C. Benstead, 4-8-7 .. Swinburn 10
18 3021- Polly Soleil (D), B. Hills, 4-8-5 Cauthen 18
19 2100- Rag Dancer (D), W. Elsey, 4-8-4 Wigham 7
21 0/00- Hunting Heir, Mrs J. Pitman, 4-8-3 Rogers 13
22 0300- Greek Prince, J. Old, 4-8-2 .... Duffield 6
23 0000- Pykostaff, C. Austin, 4-8-1 .... Fox 14
24 0000- Fastnet Island, P. Kelleway, 4-8-1 Marron 7 16
26 0000- Rheinford, J. Old, 5-8-0 .... Rimmer 5 4
27 0404- The Goldstone, W. Wightman, 7-7-13 Butler 17
30 0004- Quistador, M. Chapman, 5-7-8 .... — 8
11-4 Stand Easy, 3-1 Polly Soleil, 11-2 Davidgalaxy Affair, 8-1 Aldeburgh Festival, 10-1 Dilton Wood, 12-1 Constant Rose, Mister Lucky, 14-1 Jebel Ali, 16-1 Rag Dancer, 20-1 others.

3.45 SIMON DE MONTFORT STAKES (3-y-o maidens: £943: 1¼m)
1 0- Capelli, Mrs A. Hollinwood, 9-0 .. Ezra 7
2 000- Feltwell, H. Wragg, 9-0 .... Edwards
6 0- Ridgefield, G. Harwood, 9-0 .... Starkey
8 4430- Zaccio, J. Bethell, 9-0 .... Johnson
9 Careless Talk, C. Nelson, 8-11 .... Street
10 000- Caverdish, P. Bailey, 8-11 ...... Mercer
11 00- Col D. Leslie, 8-11 .... Paul
12 Coney, C. Wildman, 8-11 .... Curant
13 0000- Double Tops, D. Dale, 8-11 ...... Miller
15 0- Calles, M. Ryan, 8-11 .... Robinson
17 0- Great Light, R. Williams, 8-11 .... Johnson
18 000- Mr Money Bags, R. Morris, 8-11 .... Mann 7
20 0000- Prince's Drive, S. Woodman, 8-11 .... Rankin
22 0- Rubina Park, M. Ryan, 8-11 ...... Carson
7-4 Ridgefield, 5-2 Zaccio, 11-2 Feltwell, 7-1 Rubina Park, 12-1 Great Light, 14-1 Caverdish, 16-1 others.

4.15 KIBWORTH STAKES (2-y-o: £1,382: 1¼m)
1 0200- Maisecdy, R. Stubbs, 8-8 ...... Barnes 7
2 0000- Silver Leo, J. Harris, 8-8 .... Young
3 0000- Carflax, D. Ancil, 8-8 .... R. Jones 5
4 4204- Cima, J. Old, 8-5 .... Rimmer
5 0404- Duke of Brittany, S. Woodman, 8-6 Eddery
6 03- Navajo Brave, G. Hunter, 8-6 .... Cook
7 00- Ryecroft, D. Dale, 8-6 .... Miller
8 Top Reef, D. Leslie, 8-6 .... McGlone
10 0-0 Pegasse, G. Hunter, 8-5 .... —
2-1 Cima, 5-1 Duke of Brittany, 4-1 Navajo Brave, Silver Leo, 10-1 Maisecdy, 11-1 others.

4.45 LODDINGTON STAKES (3-y-o: £955: 6f)
1 00- Aras, G. Hunter, 8-11 .... Cook
2 05- Disco (B), P. Walwyn, 8-11 .... Mercer
4 0000- Hit Me Again, C. Nelson, 8-11 .... Street
5 0004- Poofer, M. Ryan, 8-11 .... Robinson
7 Thai King, W. Hastings-Bass, 8-11 .... Carson
8 000- Walk March, W. Wightman, 8-11 .... Butler
9 00- Wing Velvet, D. Leslie, 8-11 .... E. Street
10 02- Barbara Allen, J. Bethell, 8-8 .... Johnson
11 03- Creme de la Creme, P. Smyth, 8-8 .... Leason
14 000- Demo's Lady, R. Hannon, 8-8 .... Starkey
15 322- Gemsbok, C. Miller, 8-8 .... Duffield
16 4432- H. R. Micro, D. Dale, 8-8 .... Miller
18 4200- Mount Eliza, G. Blum, 8-8 .... Raymond
19 0000- Never Say When, D. Whelan, 8-8 .... Swinburn
21 0240- Russian Romance, C. Brittain, 8-8 .... Johnson
22 0000- Storm Lady, P. Kelleway, 8-8 .... Curant
23 00- Trapezey, R. Morris, 8-8 .... Moore 7
5-2 Disco, 5-1 Russian Romance, 13-2 Gemsbok, 7-1 H. R. Micro, 8-1 Creme de la Creme, 10-1 Mount Eliza, 12-1 Roofer, 14-1 Barbara Allen, Demo's Lady, 16-1 others.

Leicester selections

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.15 Kiki Mouse. 2.45 Super Eagle. 3.15 Stand Easy. 3.45 Feltwell. 4.15 Ryecroft. 4.45 Russian Romance.
By Our Racing Staff
2.15 Superb Singer. 2.45 Roybirdie. 3.15 Stand Easy. 3.45 Ridgefield. 4.15 Duke of Brittany. 4.45 Gemsbok.
By Michael Seely
3.45 RIDGEFIELD is specially recommended.

Folkestone programme

1.45 HEADCORN STAKES (2-y-o: £869: 5f)
1 Cashel Bay, E. Beeson, 8-11 .. Newnes 3 2
6 King of Speed, A. Pitt, 8-11 .. Jenkinson 4
8 Pasquier, H. O'Neill, 8-11 .... Reid 6
10 Windy Lad, S. Matthews, 8-11 .. Salmon 8
11 Angela Edelson, W. Guest, 8-8 .... Rouse 1
13 Gables Star, R. Smyth, 8-8 .... Waldron 3
14 Little Smasher, M. Haynes, 8-8 Matthias 9
15 Sharp Melody, R. Hoad, 8-8 .. Kimberley 5
16 U-Turn, R. Smyth, 8-8 .... Woolnough 7 7
6-2 Angela Edelson, 3-1 U-Turn, 5-1 King of Speed, 6-1 Cashel Bay, 8-1 Gables Star, 14-1 Little Smasher, 16-1 others.

2.15 ALKHAM HANDICAP (Selling: £610: 6f)
1 1000- Strawman, A. Davison, 4-10-0 .. Howes 14
2 0/00- Retza (D), A. Davison, 6-9-0 .... Keillie 10
3 0000- Sweet Mark Boy, J. Jenkins, 5-8-13 Cochrane 5 9
4 /000- Jagatek, W. Hastings-Bass 5-8-13 McKeown 5 3
5 2000- Prince Copper, R. Hoad, 3-8-10 Kimberley 5
7 0000- Winde Up, S. Matthews, 5-8-8 .. Salmon 3
9 020/ Gilderation, H. O'Neill, 6-8-6 .... Sexton 15
10 0000- Bihas Bounty (B), A. Pitt, 5-8-6 Waldron 11
11 0000- Sleepline Gold (B), P. Cundell, 4-8-5 Reid 8
12 1000- Veeya, A. Bailey, 3-8-2 ...... Perkins 13
13 0400- Palm the Ace, R. Hoad, 3-8-2 .. Newnes 5 7
14 0030- Last Bus, G. Lewis, 6-8-0 ...... Park 7 4
16 00/0- Steel Link, R. Hoad, 4-7-13 ...... Clark 5 6
18 3400- Dawn's Delight, K. Ivory, 3-7-7 Howard 7 12
20 4000- Tears of Gold, Pat Mitchell, 3-7-7 Hamm 7 1
4-1 Bihas Bounty, 9-2 Veeya, 5-1 Prince Copper, 6-1 Sleepline Gold, 8-1 Sweet Mark Boy, 9-1 Winde Up, 10-1 Strawman, 12-1 Jagatek, 14-1 Last Bus, 16-1 others.

2.45 KINGSNORTH HANDICAP (£1,350: 1½m)
3 1111- Admiral Grenville (CD), J. Jenkins, 5-9-9 .... Cochrane 5 3
7 1101- Corduroy, D. Morley, 5-9-1 ...... Rouse 8
8 0000- Kasland, H. O'Neill, 4-9-1 .... Reid 7
10 2-000 Irish Poet (D), G. Huffer, 7-8-13 Black 7 5
11 0420- Entebbe, F. Yardley, 6-8-12 .. Kimberley 6
12 /200- Starbloom, Miss A. Sinclair, 4-8-11 Waldron 1
14 12/0- Azd, M. Masson, 6-8-11 .... Bond 10
15 3003- Armatex, M. Bolton, 4-8-10 .... Matthias 11
18 2030- Lord of Misrule (B), M. Haynes, 7-8-6 Harding 7 12
20 0030- Ashleigh Boy, R. Hoad, 4-8-2 .. Newnes 5 9
21 2000- Newark, H. O'Neill, 6-7-11 .... Clark 5 2
22 0000- Call Bird, M. Haynes, 4-7-7 .... Jenkinson 4
11-4 Corduroy, 7-2 Admiral Grenville, 4-1 Entebbe, 7-1 Irish Poet, 8-1 Starbloom, 12-1 Armatex, 14-1 Azd, 16-1 Kasland, 20-1 others.

3.15 ALDINGTON HANDICAP (£996: 5f)
3 0403- Kassak (D), H. O'Neill, 5-9-2 .... Reid
4 1200- Highcroft (CD), G. Lewis, 5-8-13 .. Sexton
5 4010- Fiddler (D), C. Austin, 4-8-12 .... Keillie
7 C02-0 Blues, W. Guest, 4-8-9 .... Rouse
8 2220- Sitex, M. Bolton, 5-8-5 .... Matthias
9 000-0 Delta's Pride (D), K. Ivory, 5-8-2 Clark 5
10 0003- Royal Bat, I. Walker, 7-8-0 .... Colemsana
11 0043- Sally's Silver, C. Benstead, 5-7-7 Jenkinson
12 343- Her Excellency, J. Bridger, 4-7-7 Newnes 5
13 0000- Sicasanta, P. Cundell, 4-7-7 .... Carter 7
5-2 Highcroft, 7-2 Fiddler, 5-1 Blues, 7-1 Sally's Silver, 10-1 Sitex, 12-1 Kassak, Delta's Pride, 14-1 Sicasanta, 16-1 others.

3.45 ROCHESTER STAKES (£1,293: 1½m)
1 04- Best Always, M. Ryan, 4-9-0 .... Waldron
2 0334- Cardiff, R. Hoad, 4-9-0 .... Newnes 5
3 Crest Windows, T. Gosling, 6-9-0 Renshaw
5 Gather no Moss, E. Beeson, 4-9-0 Salmon
6 0130 Hymnos (D), J. Bethell, 4-9-0 .... Reid
7 1040- Ilmaz (C), D. Morley, 4-9-0 .... Rouse
10 20/0- Lewesion, J. O'Donoghue, 5-9-0 .. O'Leary
13 0044- Pitlochry, J. Jenkins, 4-9-0 .... Clark 5
14 Altaghaderry Run, F. Yardley, 6-8-11 Kimberley
15 0/ Amalfi Bay, M. Bolton, 4-8-11 .. Matthias
17 -0000 Scottish Belle, A. Moore, 4-8-11 Cochrane 5
18 2200- Silcakey, M. Ryan, 4-8-11 .... d'Arcy
2-1 Hymnos, 3-1 Cardiff, 4-1 Ilmaz, 9-1 Best Always, 10-1 Silcakey, Pitlochry, 14-1 Lewesion, 16-1 others.

4.15 SHORNCLIFFE STAKES (3-y-o: £552: 1¼m)
3 Fenkin, M. Ryan, 9-0 .... d'Arcy
4 Fitzgayle, G. Harwood, 9-0 .... Rawlinson
5 00- Flashray, A. Davison, 9-0 .... Howes 5
7 0000- Light Sentence, H. Price, 9-0 ...... Rouse
11 00- Ray Charles, G. Harwood, 9-0 .... Taylor
13 000- Rheingold's Gift, C. Brittain, 9-0 Bradwell 5
14 0040- Robard, G. Lewis, 9-0 .... Sexton
15 000- Sailor's Revenge, E. Beeson, 9-0 Salmon
17 Spotsylvania, J. Bethell, 9-0 .... Reid
18 00- Toberjovic, A. Davison, 9-0 .... Keillie
19 Relico, A. Pitt, 8-11 .... Saunders 7
20 00- Contosa, Pat Mitchell, 8-11 .... Hamm 7
22 Dutch Princess, Miss A. Sinclair, 8-11 Matthias
23 0- Romantic Affair, Pat Mitchell, 8-11 Cochrane 5
7-4 Ray Charles, 5-1 Light Sentence, 4-1 Rheingold's Gift, 6-1 Fitzgayle, 8-1 Robard, 14-1 others.

Folkstone selections

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
1.45 Angela Edelson. 2.15 Jagatek. 2.45 Irish Poet. 3.15 Blues. 3.45 Best Always. 4.15 Rheingold's Gift.
By Our Racing Staff
1.45 U-Turn. 2.15 Jagatek. 2.45 Irish Poet. 3.15 Blues. 3.45 Cardiff. 4.15 Robard.

Ayr programme

2.30 KIDSNEUK STAKES (2-y-o: £800: 5f)
1 Allan Wells, T. Craig, 9-0 .... Birch 5
3 Do It Now, J. Berry, 9-0 .... Darley 2
5 Green Meadows Inn, W. H. Williams, 9-0 Hide 3
6 Karen's Gem, S. Nesbitt, 9-0 .. Nesbitt 3 4
8 Mountaineer, C. Bell, 9-0 .... Perks 7
10 Roman Quest, T. Fairhurst, 9-0 .... Gray 1
11 Super Bee Jay, N. Callaghan, 9-0 Raymond 6
9-4 Super Bee Jay, 7-2 Roman Quest, 9-2 Allan Wells, 6-1 Do It Now, 8-1 Green Meadows Inn, 10-1 Mountaineer, 16-1 Karen's Gem.

3.0 LADYKIRK STAKES (3-y-o: £1,171: 6f)
1 0200- Arnadar, W. H. Williams, 8-10 .. Longair 7 5
2 400- Cloney Boy, Denys Smith, 8-10 Campbell 7 8
4 03- Java Tiger, J. W. Watts, 8-10 ...... Hide 3
5 0400- Scarlet Town, R. Hollinshead, 8-10 Perks 6
6 00- Blue Empress, M. Francis, 8-7 .... Birch 9
7 0304- Miss Chessy, J. Berry, 8-7 ...... Darley 4
8 0042- Record Surprise (B), N. Callaghan, 8-7 Raymond 1
9 2003- Star Heading, W. H. Williams, 8-7 Charnock 7
10 0000- The Huyton Girls, M. James, 8-7 Connorton 5 2
7-4 Java Tiger, 9-4 Record Surprise, 5-1 Scarlet Town, 6-1 Star Heading, 10-1 Miss Chessy, 12-1 Blue Empress, 16-1 others.

3.30 SEAFIELD HANDICAP (£2,970: 6f)
1 0000- Cree Song (CD), W. H. Williams, 5-10-0 Birch 11
3 2222- Murillo (D,B), J. W. Watts, 5-9-3 .. Hide 2
4 0401- Nocturnal Boy (D), N. Callaghan, 5-9-1 Raymond 4
5 0000- Nice Value (D), R. Hollinshead, 7-8-13 Perks 9
6 2004- Maybrook (CD), G. Richards, 5-8-6 Wood 10
7 0402- Karen's Star, S. Nesbitt, 4-8-2 .. Nesbitt 5
8 1240- O. I. Oyston (D), J. Berry, 5-8-5 .. Darley 1
9 2000- Regency Elite, Denys Smith, 6-8-2 Kelleher 3
10 1100- Flash Connection, Mrs A. Cousins, 4-7-11 Lowe 7
11 0232- Deputy (D), J. FitzGerald, 5-7-10 Carlisle 5 8
12 0040- Our Foxbar (C), M. Naughton, 6-7-7 Paul Eddery 5 6
3-1 Murillo, 4-1 Nocturnal Boy, 5-1 O. I. Oyston, 7-1 Regency Elite, 8-1 Cree Song, 10-1 Deputy, 12-1 Flash Connection, Maybrook, 16-1 others.

4.0 RAVENSPARK HANDICAP (£869: 1m)
1 0030- Nonchalant (D), A. Smith, 6-10-0 .. Birch
2 03/0- Burma Pink (D), A. Smith, 8-9-13 .. Hide
4 3000- Zobo, R. Hollinshead, 4-8-7 .... Perks
8 0000- What-a-Case, W. H. Williams, 5-8-3 Longair 7
9 0-03- Caernarvon Bay (D), R. Stubbs, 5-8-1 Webster
11 0000- Ochil Hills Star (C), Mrs A. Bell, 8-7-13 Charnock
12 0002- Hallo Cheeky, J. FitzGerald, 5-7-10 Carlisle 5
13 0300- Spanish Handful, R. Stubbs, 6-7-10 Fry 7
16 0042- Consent (C), J. S. Wilson, 3-7-7 Whitworth 7
17 2440- Serpico, J. Berry, 5-7-7 .... Darley
3-2 Consent, 5-1 Serpico, 4-1 Hallo Cheeky, Nonchalant, 8-1 Caernarvon Bay, 10-1 Spanish Handful, 16-1 Burma Pink, 20-1 others.

4.30 GARNOCK HANDICAP (3-y-o: £2,229: 1¼m)
1 3033- Cobbler Smith, T. Fairhurst, 9-7 .. Gray
2 1400- Age of Reason, Denys Smith, 9-6 .. Hide
3 0100- Patchinia, S. Norton, 9-4 .... Lowe
4 4130- Tudorville, R. Stone, 9-1 .... Birch
5 3004- Connaught Nymph, R. Hollinshead, 8-4 Paul Eddery 5
6 0043- French Knot (B), J. W. Watts, 8-0 Webster
7 0221- Audit, G. Richards, 7-13 .... Wood
5-1 French Knot, 7-2 Connaught Nymph, 4-1 Age of Reason, 5-1 Tudorville, 6-1 Audit, 8-1 Cobbler Smith, Patchinia.

5.0 GREENAN STAKES (3-y-o: £769: 1m 3f)
1 00- Anvil Inn, T. Craig, 9-0 .... Richards 7
2 000- Auld Mung, Denys Smith, 9-0 Sebastian 5
3 0430- Little Deep, C. Bell, 9-0 .... Gray
4 000-0 Luxembourg, R. Stubbs, 9-0 .... Webster
5 2030- Way of the Wold, S. Norton, 9-0 .. Lowe
5-4 Little Deep, 5-2 Way of the Wold, 5-1 Luxembourg, 6-1 Auld Mung, 10-1 Anvil Inn.

Ayr selections

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.30 Supper Bee Jay. 3.0 Record Surprise. 3.30 Nocturnal Boy.
By Our Racing Staff
2.30 Do It Now. 3.0 Scarlet Town. 3.30 Murillo. 4.0 Consent. 4.30 Patchinia. 5.0 Way of the Wold.
By Michael Seely
3.0 Scarlet Town. 3.30 Nice Value. 4.30 Connaught Nymph.

For the record

Hockey

LONDON LEAGUE: Beckenham 1, Richmond 0; Blackheath 1, Teddington 1; Bromley 0, Guildford 0; Dulwich 4, Spencer 2; Hampstead 5, Mid-Surrey 0; Hawks 1, Tulse Hill 4; Maidenhead 1, Southgate 3; Purley 3, St Albans 1; Slough 8, Old Kingstonians 0; Surbiton 1, Hounslow 3, Wimbledon 1, Reading 3.

JUNIOR DIVISIONAL TOURNAMENT: North 1, South 2; West 2, East 4; South 2, Midlands 0; East 5, Combined Services 0; Midlands 1, North 2; Combined Services 1, West 0.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL: England 1, Ireland 0.

BUENOS AIRES: Women's world championship: Group A: West Germany 5, France 1; Argentina 6, Mexico 1. Group B: Canada 2, Belgium 1; Netherlands 2, Australia 0; Australia 5, Spain 0; Belgium 3, Austria 1; Netherlands 4, Canada 0.

KUALA LUMPUR: Inter-Continental tournament: New Zealand 3, France 1; Wales 2, Zimbabwe 1; Belgium 3, Singapore 1; Malaysia 4, Italy 2.

Rugby League

THREE FIVES CUP: Semi-final round: Warrington 9, Widnes 17.

Yesterday

FIRST DIVISION: Barrow 10, Hull Kingston Rovers 18; Bradford Northern 26, Warrington 7; Featherstone Rovers 24, Salford 8; Halifax 17, St Helens 7; Hull 16, Castleford 23; Leigh 25, Oldham 24; Wakefield Trinity 22, Workington Town 12.

SECOND DIVISION: Dewsbury 14, Whitehaven 17; Hunslet 11, Huddersfield 21; Huyton 13, Bramley 32; Keighley 20, Batley 14; Rochdale Hornets 12, Swinton 10; Wigan 34, Doncaster 5; York 15, Fulham 10.

Basketball

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: New York Knicks 90, New Jersey Nets 88; Washington Bullets 108, Detroit Pistons 105; Utah Jazz 112, Los Angeles Lakers 110 (overtime); Denver Nuggets 142, Golden State Warriors 137. Friday's results: Indiana Pacers 122, Washington Bullets 107; Detroit Pistons 115, Boston Celtics 90; Philadelphia 76ers 138, Cleveland Cavaliers 117; Portland Trail Blazers 135, Dallas Mavericks 109; Chicago Bulls 108, Atlanta Hawks 83; Houston Rockets 91, Kansas City Kings 84; Phoenix Suns 124, San Diego Clippers 100; Los Angeles Lakers 97, Seattle Supersonics 90.

Snooker

BRISTOL: World professional championship, qualifying section: J. Dunning beat P. Fagan 9—7; J. White beat B. Mikkelsen (Canada) 9—4.

Cycling

MONS: International Criterium classic: second stage (92.5km): 1, B. Hinault, 2hr 36min 26sec; 2, J. Bossis, same time; 3, J. Fuchs (Switzerland), 2:36 28. Third stage (13.7km): 1, Hinault, 27min 54sec; 2, J. Bossis, 27:56; 3, S. Roche (Ireland), 27:57. British placings: 29, R. Millar, 30:11; 45, P. Sherwen, 31:50; 48, G. Jones, 33:06. Final standings: 1, Hinault, 7hr 26min 6sec; 2, Bossis 2sec behind; 3, R. Clere, at 6sec; 4, Roche, at 17sec; 5, P. Simon, at 47sec; 6, Adrie Van Der Poel (Netherlands), at 48sec. British placings: 19, Millar, 3min 57sec behind; 39, Sherwen, 7hr 38min 11sec; 46, Jones, 7:44:03.

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Boston Bruins 3, Chicago Black Hawks 2; Edmonton Oilers 4, Detroit Red Wings 2; Pittsburgh Penguins 4, New York Islanders 4; New York Rangers 6, Montreal Canadiens 2; Toronto Maple Leafs 9, Calgary Flames 5; St Louis Blues 7, Buffalo Sabres 4; Los Angeles Kings 3, Minnesota North Stars 2. Friday's results: Hartford Whalers 5, Washington Capitals 3; Vancouver Canucks 10, Winnipeg Jets 2, Buffalo Sabres 5, Colorado Rockies 3.
ORTISEI: World championship: Norway 6, Yugoslavia 2; Switzerland 8, Romania 3; Poland 7, East Germany 5; Italy 9, Japan 2; Poland 8, Yugoslavia 4; Romania 7, Norway 3; Poland 8, Yugoslavia 1.

Lacrosse

SOUTH OF ENGLAND LEAGUE: First division: Hillcroft 4, Lee 24; Kenton 17, Buckhurst Hill 14.
WOMEN'S REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: British Universities 41, Celtic Reserves 5.
REGIONAL TROPHY: Final: Lancashire 13, Cheshire 16.

Athletics

CALIFORNIA: Martin Luther King Jnr Games: Men: 100m: 1, J. Sanford (US), 10.10sec. 400m: 1, W. Green (US) 45.40. Women: 100m: J. Pusey (Jamaica) 11.30. 400m: J. Pusey, 53.10.

Rifle shooting

BISLEY: 1, London and Middlesex 470; 2, Hertfordshire A 467; 3, Hertfordshire B 460. 1, Hampshire 1,153; 2, Royal Navy 1,114.

Golf

SINGAPORE: Singapore open: 275: M. Aye (Burma), 68, 68, 67, 70; 275, Lu Hsi Chuen (Taiwan) 71, 66, 69, 69; 276, S. Heath (US), 68, 69, 71, 68, M. Siodina (Philippines), 69, 71, 69, 67, Hung Weng Nang (Taiwan), 70, 67, 69, 70; 277, Chen Tze-Ming (Taiwan) 71, 70, 69, 67, T. Gale (Australia), 71, 64, 71, 71.
HILTON HEAD ISLAND: Sea Pines Heritage Tournament: 208: W. Rodgers 71, 69, 68. 211: H. Irwin 68, 70, 73; G. Morgan 67, 72, 72; J. Pate 69, 68, 74. 212: B. Devlin (Australia) 70, 71, 71; T. Weiskopf 71, 69, 72; F. Zoeller 68, 70, 74; T. Diehl 73, 69, 70; C. Stadler 71, 70, 71; R. Maltbie 71, 68, 73. 213: S. Ballesteros (Spain) 67, 73, 72; R. Floyd 69, 74, 70; B. Allin 69, 73, 71; J. Haas 73, 70, 69.
LUSAKA: Zambian Open championship, final leading placings: (GB unless stated): 276: B. Barnes, 70, 67, 69, 70. 277: J. Morgan, 70, 70, 66, 71; H. Clark, 66, 70, 69, 72. 279: E. Darcy (Ireland), 71, 71, 68, 69; S. Lyle, 70, 67, 70, 72; S. Ginn (Australia), 69, 67, 73, 70. 281: K. Brown, 70, 70, 68, 73. 282: T. Webber (Zimbabwe), 69, 72, 71, 70; B. Gallacher, 69, 72, 71, 70; E. Polland (Ireland), 73, 70, 69, 71. 284: A. Jacklin, 69, 73, 73, 69; G. Cullen, 74, 70, 67, 73.
RADLETT: London University beat Porters Park 7½—4½.

Speed skating

MOSCOW: Men: 500m: 1, Y. Kulikov, 36.71sec (world best). Women: 500m: 1, K. Rotenburger (EG), 40.18 (world best). 1,000m: 1, N. Petruseva, 1:20.81 (world best). 5,000m: 1, G. Schorbrunn (EG), 7:21.70 (world best).
THE HAGUE: Netherlands Open meeting: men: 500m, M. Richmond (Australia) 46.78sec. 800m, T. Ishiari (Japan) 1min 15.61sec (world best). Women: 500m, M. Kato (Japan) 52.42sec. 3,000m, M. Katon 5:40.73.

Motor cycling

LOVOLO: Italian grand prix 125 cc world motorcross championship: 1, G. Andreani (San Marino) Kim, 46min 26.2sec; 2, M. Rinaldi (Italy) Gilera, 46:26.9; 3, A. Watanabe (Japan) Suzuki, 46:30.7.

Cricket

PERTH: Western Australia Grade 1 final: Freemantle 365 (T. Anderson 7 for 65); Subiaco Floreat 141 (G. Hughes 44). Freemantle won by 124 runs.

Boxing

INDIANAPOLIS: Amateur international: United States beat Poland 8—4.

Judo

MADRID: Women's European championships: 61kg class, Hughes (GB). 66kg, Mil (Belgium). 72kg, Triadou (France). Over 72kg, de Cal (Italy). 48kg, 1, Friedrich (WG); 3, Briggs (GB). 52kg, 1, Hrovat (Austria); 2, Doyle (GB). 56kg, Winkbayer (Austria). Open, Classen (WG).

Tennis

STUTTGART: Semi-final round: I. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) beat W. Fibak (Poland), 6—3, 6—2; C. Lewis (NZ) beat S. Glickstein (Israel), 2—6, 7—6, 7—5. Final: Lendl beat Lewis, 6—3, 6—0, 6—7, 6—3.

Doncaster results

1.45: 1, Hello Cuddles (11-2); 2, Greenwood Lady (9-2); 3, Mink Coat (25-1). Shared Moment 6-4 fav. 11 ran.

2.15: 1, Marking Time (7-2 jt fav); 2, Welham Green (15-2); 3, Rasa Penang (6-1). Voting Day 7-2 jt fav. 11 ran. NR: The Cliftonian.

2.55: 1, Saher (14-1); 2, Hernns Hollow (9-1); 3, Hurricane Hill (40-1). Folk Hero 6-1 fav. Bonol (14-1) 4th. 19 ran. NR: Border Brook.

3.25: 1, Nureddin (9-4 fav); 2, Carved Opal (5-1); 3, Vidliard (5-1). 10 ran. NR: Padang.

3.55: 1, King Of Spain (3-1); 2, Rabdan (5-2 fav); 3, Overtrick (5-1). 11 ran.

4.25: 1, Tender Angus (11-10 fav); 2, Dogberry (6-1); 3, Cornishman (6-1). 10 ran.

4.55: 1, Tolstoy (7-1); 2, State Trooper (5-1); 3, Big Pal (4-1 jt fav). Side Track 4-1 jt fav. 14 ran. NR: Varikoz.

Newbury NH

2.0: 1, Persian Scimitar (6-4 fav); 2, Cromwell Road (10-1); 3, Bonum Omen (100-30). 12 ran.

2.30: 1, Skinflint (16-1); 2, Broken Flight (20-1); 3, Sharp Deal (7-1 jt fav). Mountain Monarch 7-1 jt fav. 22 ran.

3.10: 1, Bideford (2-1 fav); 2, Flying Gamble (20-1); 3, Harry Hotspur (14-1). 8 ran.

3.40: 1, Captain John (5-2); 2, Laurence Rambler (6-1); 3, Another Duke (2-1 fav). 8 ran.

4.10: 1, Super Symphony (4-1 fav); 2, Letterbox (8-1); 3, Pharoah's Own (16-1). 24 ran.

4.40: 1, Black Rod (3-1); 2, Golden River (7-4 fav); 3, Bright Oassis (14-1). 24 ran.

The London marathon

Suitable end to a fast and friendly race

y John Witherow

The streets of London resoun-ed yesterday to the cheers of undreds of thousands of spec-tors and the squelch of aterlogged plimsolls as the 700 motley runners pounded rough steady drizzle in the rst London marathon.

The spirit of camaraderie hich pervaded the event en-uraged the first two runners, r Inge Simonsen, aged 25, om Norway, and Mr Dick eardsley, aged 24, an Ameri-n, to cross the line hand in nd after 2hr 11.48 min.

About seven hours after the art another couple, Mrs Marie ominique de Groot, aged 30, om Paris, and Mr David aiman, aged 47, from East instead, also finished holding nds and claiming the dubious stinction of coming last.

Others sprinted, hobbled, lim-d, stumbled and, in the case one man affected by cramp st before the finish, hopped ross the line. Their faces flected the agony of the dis-nce. Some displayed elation, me wore fixed grimaces, some utched at their chests as they aggered towards the line, hile the fitter ones looked as they had been for a jog ound St James's Park.

Throughout the afternoon the 'est End was littered with mpetitors, their joints creak-g as they hailed taxis in pur-it of hot baths. Some were o exhausted to walk and were rried from the scene of their iumphs.

The St John Ambulance rigade said there were no rious casualties although hun-reds suffered from exhaustion. he runners were quickly wrap-ed in gold and silver foil blan-ets and given hot drinks.

"What most of them needed as tender, loving care", Mr hristopher Brasher, former lympic steeplechaser and the rganizer of the race, said.

About 22,000 people wanted run but the figure was kept 7,590, of whom 890 failed to gister on the day. An esti-ated 900 "pirate" runners ppeared to have participated.

Mr Dennis Moore, a blind nner from Teddington, fin-hed the course attached to other competitor by a piece rope. Several septuagenarians uised past the finish in accep-ble times while Mr Roger urbon, aged 32, a Los Angeles staurant owner, took the title the fastest waiter in the rld by finishing in just over ree hours. He promptly drank e bottle of mineral water had so carefully balanced on tray for 26 miles and 385 rds.

The fastest woman was Mrs Joyce Smith, aged 43, the mother of two daughters. She completed the course in 2 hr 29.56 min, making her the third fastest woman marathon runner in the world.

"I feel great", she said afterwards. "The crowd just chanted. Joyce, Joyce, Joyce!" Although several top international runners did not take part the overall standard was remarkably high. Mr Brasher said more than 50 people in the first 60 did personal best times and 142 finished in under two and a half hours. That compared with 119 in the same time out of the 12,500 who took part in the New York marathon last year.

"This is a remarkable tribute to the tradition of long-distance running in this country", Mr Brasher said. An American who has run in marathons throughout the world estimated that more than a million people lined the route

The course, starting at Greenwich Park and running alongside the Thames and through the City of London, contained far more turns than the New York route and was 30 yards longer than the official marathon distance

It was studded at regular intervals with 1,000 volunteer helpers, 500 special constables, 26 first-aid stations and 300 St John Ambulance personnel. There was even a cardiac unit on Constitution Hill.

One of the oldest competitors, 70-year-old Len Rolls, from Ashford, Kent, after completing the marathon.

It was a remarkable feat of organization. With a budget of £100,000, the organizers supplied 2,000 foil blankets, 75 portable lavatories, marquees, 400 gallons of coffee and 50,000 plastic cups. Nervous starters had the benefit of a 100-foot long urinal in Greenwich Park.

The drizzle through much of the day was considered perfect weather for long-distance running: "It was great. It kept me cool and I did not overheat", one runner commented. Others found the rain daunting and one man said his socks got so waterlogged he could hardly run.

The race certainly attracted an odd assortment of clothing and an even odder selection of headgear. One man turned in a fine performance dressed as a convict, another wore a dress shirt and bow-tie, and another a plastic bag.

Mr Jimmy Savile, wearing a gold lamé tracksuit, squashed rumours that his Rolls-Royce followed him round the course. "It would have been OK if someone had not moved Buckingham Palace", he said.

Mr Savile raised £50,000 through sponsorship

Mr Nigel Dempster, the *Daily Mail* columnist, who was raising money for a guide dog for the blind, said he wanted to give up several times, but someone had kicked him the last eight miles. He finished in just over four hours.

Among other celebrities competing, the honour of wearing the number 1 on his vest was given to Fred Lebow, the organizer of the New York Marathon, who ran 18 miles, 10 of them with a knee brace

Fastest time: The winning time was the fastest for a marathon run in England (Paul Harrison writes).

Dick Beardsley, from Minnesota, and Inge Simonsen, a physical therapist from Oslo, broke away from a British pack at about the 16-mile mark and were never caught.

There were 15 Britons in the first 20 finishers and the most promising domestic performance came from Michael Kearns, aged 27, whose 2hrs 13min 37sec in fourth place was more than 20 minutes inside his personal best. One hundred and forty-two runners were under 2:30.

An estimated 80 per cent of the runners finished, a high survival rate considering the number of first-timers.

Trevor Wright, aged 34, from the Wolverhampton and Bilston club, was the first Briton home, coming in third.



Photograph by Jonathan Player

The joint winners, Dick Beardsley (left) and Inge Simonsen crossing the finishing line together, clasping hands.

Event up to New York standards

Although boycotted by most top marathon runners, short on prizes and appearance money and held too early in the year, the first London marathon compares very favourably with that of New York (Michael Coleman writes).

Allowance has to be made, however, for the fact that New York had double the number of starters (that in London was restricted by the police).

It is significant that Mr Fred Lebow, director of the New York marathon, expressed surprise at the boycott of the London race which he estimated would be worth £50,000 to the winner, not in prizes but in appearance money abroad.

The first 100 past the post at Buckingham Palace were:

Joint first (2hr 11min 48sec): D Beardsley, aged 24, USA; I Simonsen, 25; 3, 2:12:53, T Wright, 34; 4, 2:13:37, M W Kearns, 27; 5, 2:13:59, G G Laing, 24; 6, 2:14:01, G B Cole, 31; 7, 2:14:54, J Dingwall, 31; 8, 2:15:31, R K Penny, 31; 9, 2:15:55, P Eales, 27; 10, 2:16.36, D K Faircloth, 32, 11, 2.16.41, R E Cytlau, 29; 12, 2.17:14, B Narvig, 31, Norway; 13, 2:17:27, R Maule, 27; 14, 2:17:36, R R Lunnon, 30; 15, 2.18:22, J Stanley, 21, Australia; 16, 2:19:43, T L Jones, 37; 17, 2:20 16, D D Austin, 36; 18, 2:20.17, H Olsen, 21 Norway; 19, 2:20:25, P W Rafferty, 30; 20, 2:20:40, C C Hallimond, 28; 21, 2:20:49, K R Best, 29; 22, 2:21:00, M M Fletcher, 30; 23, 2:21:02, D D Allen, 27; 24, 2:21:04, D Pratt, 33; 25, 2:21:06, J Wheway, 29; 26, 2:21:08, S Rant, 21, NZL; 27, 2:21:25, D R Evans, 33; 28, 2:21:29, G Staunton, 21; 29, 2:21:37, D Clark, 37; 30, 2:21:41, J J Wagstaff, 31; 31, 2:21:52, K-A Gotvassli, 21, Norway; 32, 2:22:10, M M Shields, 26; 33, 2:22:11, T O'Reilly, 35; 34, 2:22:19, A Macfarlane, 35, 35, 2:22:20, M Deegan, 24; 36, 2:22:28, C L Moxon, 33; 37, 2:22:42, B Walker, 21, NZL; 38, 2:22:47, J M Tagg, 34; 39, 2:22:49, D D Felsenstein, 22; 40, 2:22.59, W W Vonus, 41; 41, 2:23:04, D Blakeley, 34; 42, 2:23:08, F F Thomas, 30; 43, 2:23:18, L J Smith, 34; 44, 2:23:19, R E Samuel, 28; 45, 2:23:22, G A Taylor, 35; 46, 2:23:28, D Young, 21, NZL; 47, 2:23:29, J I Moust, 34; 48, 2:23:29, E Austin, 45; 49, 2:23:48, L L Benjamin, 22; 50, 2:23:49, D J Ellis, 21; 51, 2:23:51, J S Killie, 27; 52, 2:24:01, J Davies, 33; 53, 2:24:03, D J Fudge, 38; 54, 2:24:10, H. A. Chadwick, 34. 55, 2:24:15, G H Buchler, 32; 56, 2:24:19, M I McGeoch, 25; 57, 2:24:22, C A Ross, 25; 58, 2:24:23, A A Daly, 20; 59, 2:24:32, C C Ryan, 29; 60, 2:24:53, J W Barker, 27; 61, 2:25:03, C J Hirst, 22; 62, 2:25:13, K K Davies, 27; 63, 2:25:17, P Wheeler, 20; 64, 2:25:18, B S Jones, 27; 65, 2:25.38, J A Avis, 40; 66, 2:25:40, S Kirk, 24; 67, 2:25:43, H A Rostad, 34; 68, 2:25:43, J Small, 26; 69, 2:25:46, W P Domoney, 30; 70, 2:25:48, D Roberts, 32; 71, 2:25:52, T Annett, 30; 72 2:25:54, J A Keating, 32; 73, 2:26:01, C C Hicks, 28; 74, 2:26.04, R Belk, 30; 75, 2:26:08, J A Goldring 25; 76 2:26:10, J N Alder, 40; 77, 2:26.16, M Murdoch, 30; 78, 2 26:23, K J Lomas, 24; 79, 2:26:31, M Summers, 28; 80, 2:26:36, M French, 26; 81, 2:26:41, D D Lohian, 26; 82, 2:26.43, J J Davies, 37; 83, 2:26:51, K L Deathridge, 37; 84, 2:27:04, C C Rutland, 35; 85, 2:27:09, P J Yates, 38; 86, 2:27:17, L P Pearson, 24; 87, 2:27:19, P Ashton, 20; 88, 2:27:21, G L Anderson, 31; 89, 2:27:22, R R Cooper, 45; 90, 2.27:23, C C Hunn, 40; 91, 2:27:23, G Wood, 34; 92, 2:27:24, S Kelly, 28; 93, 2:27:29, G C Astill, 37; 94, 2:27:31, F F Collins, 21; 95, 2:27:32, A A Partridge, 31; 96, 2:27:35, D Lettlewood, 36; 97, 2:27:52, D Jackson, 26; 98, 2:27:53, D Lockley, 31; 99, 2:28:01, D H Brown, 25; 100, 2:28:02, B Pickergill, 34.

The first past the post in the New York marathon on October 26 last year were:

Men: 1, A Salazar (US), 2hr 9min 41sec; 2, R Gomez (Mexico), 2:10:14; 3, J Graham (UK), 2:11:47; 4, J Wells (US), 2:12:00; 5, W Rodgers (US), 2:13:21; 6, I Simonsen (Norway), 2:13:23; 7, T Wright (UK), 2:13:31; 8, R Marczak (Poland), 2:13:46; 9, R Beardsley (US), 2:13:56; 10, F Richardson (US), 2:14:14; 11, C Garforth (UK), 2:14:29; 12, R Ortega (Spain), 2:14:45; 13, O Dahl (Norway), 2:15:07; 14, M Arena (Italy), 2:15:17; 15, E Ndiemandoi (Tanzania), 2:15:47; 16, J White (US), 2:16:39; 17, F Szekeres (Hungary), 2:17:19; 18, K McCarey (US), 2:17:21; 19, R Kulikowski (US), 2:17:51; 20, N Wilson (UK), 2:17:58; 21, J Drayton (Canada), 2:17.58; 22, C Stewart (UK), 2:17:59; 23, H Parmentier (Belgium), 2:18:09; 24, R Callison (US), 2:18:16; 25, E Tikkanen (Finland), 2:18:30; 26, V Mora (Colombia), 2:18:33; 27, C Vriend (Holland), 2:18:39; 28, O Sanders (US), 2:18:42; 29, T Colton (UK), 2:19:15; 30, K Sirna (US), 2:19:40.

Keeping right on to the end of Constitution Hill

Michael Coleman, aged 50, a sub-editor on 'The Times', was our man in the race yesterday morning. He limped home to tell the tale of his first marathon.

Dull would he be of soul who could pass by, etc. Wordsworth on Westminster Bridge must have been there before the age of mass marathons, I suppose, for its majesty was the last thing I cared about yesterday. The sooner I showed a clean pair of heels to it the closer would be the coveted target, for a first-timer, of three hours.

Big Ben and the bridge became just visible as we limped, wearily, up and out of the Blackfriars underpass. Round the bend of the Thames, just a mile off, they said, though by this time we knew what that meant.

The Embankment took an age. The blisters that began making their presence felt at Shadwell (14 miles) were on fire, and if you believe that natty modern running shorts have dispensed with all the scratchy bits, take them out for a marathon run.

But for the deafening roars of encouragement from those incredible crowds jamming the pavements—can it possibly be more full-blooded than this at The Wedding?—the limbs would have called it a day. Many runners about me did stop, even though it was "only two miles to the palace now", but the crowd would have none of it, fairly blowing them through the wall of pain and back into the action.

Parliament's timepiece was booming midday as we turned the corner into the square, up a slight gradient that hurt. Another girl padded past, making eight of them, apart from the elite group that had left Greenwich Park before us, and whose backs we never saw.

Birdcage Walk is of immense length, probably the longest stretch of road in the world. Girl No. 8 was slipping into the distance. Round the corner to the Queen Victoria Memorial and time for a regal wave to the people, highly appreciated.

The girl was faltering as we hit the run-in up Constitution Hill. What should a sportsman and gentleman do on such an occasion? The digital clock over the line decided it. Courtesy be blowed, it was a sprint finish with the clock stopped at 3:07:57.

That was less than an hour behind the winning time of 2:11:48 which had been announced to us while we were still pounding along West Ferry Road on the Isle of Dogs (18 miles). Five-minute miles for the winners and seven-minute miles for us.

The women, bless 'em, were worshipped along the way. "Go on, gel, get stuck in", they shrieked from the flats in Limehouse. The runners waved back. Children went girl-spotting. "Look, mum, there's another lady", a Cockney voice said politely.

"Ronald Biggs" appeared among us, wearing full convict strip, arrows and all. "Blimey, Ronnie boy, where ya bin?", they roared in delighted appreciation. "Keep going. The jail's just up the road."

The waiter carrying the champagne glass on a tray who sailed past just after we had crossed Tower Bridge (13 miles) was a sporting feat I would never have believed, had I not seen it. From the excitement of the spectators it was clear that something phenomenal was happening behind and, sure enough, in full black waiter's garb he strode through our ranks and disappeared into the distance.

Until that point, I had been keeping up with No F011, a lass from Sheffield who had the disconcerting habit of chatting to two bearded blokes with GB rings round their vests. We went over the tip-up bridge at a fair old lick in something well under one hour 30 minutes for the half distance, and I was in two minds whether to call it off or attempt what seemed sure to be suicide. The speedy waiter drove in the final nail and went off with Miss Sheffield.

At Greenwich Park we had filled the road, gutter to gutter, the grandest sight in the world if you dared look back. By the East End we were stretched like elastic in the rain, and the gaps grew and grew as those without sufficient milage in their legs faded to the rear, and those with road running in their veins went into overdrive.

Some old chaps fairly flew the last three miles, but even then were not contented. "Absolute waste of time coming down to London", I heard one old gaffer complain. "Only a 2:45. On that course: I should have done a 37!"

But I shall prize the little medal they gave me. Wouldn't exchange it for a million pounds.

Residential property

New office development for London

A 200,000 sq ft office development is planned for west London by Taylor Woodrow Property Co. Construction work on the scheme at the junction of West Gate and Hanger Lane is proposed to start towards the end of the year and preletting talks are already afoot.

Architect for the scheme is the Elsom Pack Roberts Partnership and its design includes a courtyard building with the accommodation on lower ground, ground and five upper floors. The scheme will include parking for 300 cars.

The new development is adjacent to the nearly-completed 12,000 sq ft West Gate office scheme being carried out by Taylor Woodrow, in association with AGB Research for its own occupation.

In May, work is due to start on a contract worth £3.5m for the renovation of Finsbury House, in Blomfield Street, EC2, which the Corporation of the City of London has awarded to Costain Construction. The scheme retains the two main elevations to Blomfield Street and Finsbury Circus, which have a grade two listing for architectural or historic interest. When completed, the building will provide some 30,000 sq ft net of floor area, compared to the present 26,226 sq ft.

The extra space is being created by the use of a curtain wall on one side, a new mezzanine floor, and an extended fifth floor, with better use of the internal areas. Existing floors are also being replaced because they do not provide sufficient floor loading for modern office use.

The completed property will provide offices on basement, ground and five upper floors. Letting is to be through Richard Ellis, whose staff architects were responsible for the design, in association with the city corporation.

In Fitzalan Place, Cardiff, a £2.3m office building has just been topped out and is due for completion next spring. The scheme is being carried out by Trafalgar House Developments and constructed by Cementation Building, a member of the building division of the Trafalgar House Group. Architect for the scheme is Osborne V. Webb and Partners, and the topping out took place four weeks ahead of schedule.

The six-storey building is on a recently completed stretch of the city's distribution road, just off Newport Road in the middle of the business centre and will provide 56,500 sq ft of office space to be let in parts or as a whole.

It is currently the only self-contained building of similar size available in the centre of Cardiff. Letting agents are Debenham Tewson and Chinnocks, of Cardiff, and Walker Son and Packman, of Bristol.



Artist's impression of the renovated and extended Harefield Place, Uxbridge, Middlesex, which will provide 30,000 sq ft of offices.

In Uxbridge, Middlesex, Estates and General Investments has prelet its 30,000 sq ft office scheme at Harefield Place to *Digital Equipment* at a rent of £240,000 a year, one year ahead of completion of the building programme. The development will be held by Estates & General in its portfolio and the completed property will have an investment value of about £4m. The rent will be subject to an open review after the tenants take occupation. The refurbishment is under the direction of Fewster and Partners, architects, with work being carried out by Corral Construction.

The scheme involves the restoration of Harefield Place, an 18th century mansion with a grade two listing, which provides about 18,000 sq ft, with a new extension adding another 12,000 sq ft. he property stands on high ground in 10 acres of grounds which contain an ornamental lake. For many years it was the home of Sir Roger Newdigate, the antiguary.

Letting was through Debenham Tewson and Chinnocks. The tenants, who will use the building as their new United Kingdom headquarters were introduced by Conrad Ritblat.

In Scotland, UK Provident is to undertake a large office development at 122-128 St Vincent Street, Glasgow, a site in the centre of the city next to the Bank of Scotland. A contract worth £2.9m has been placed with Henry Boot Construction. The existing building is to be demolished except for the existing front stone facade, which is to be retained and incorporated into the new structure.

Architect for the scheme is cott, Brownrigg and Turner, of Glasgow, and the design provides for an eight-storey building with a gross floor area of 56,500 sq ft, designed for single or multi-tenant use. Parking will be at ground and lower ground floor levels. Project manager for the scheme is Machurst and letting is through Hillier Parker May and Rowden, and Edward Erdmman and Co.

An interesting scheme is to be carried out in Horley town centre, where Arlington Securities has received planning permission from the Surrey County Council for an office and shop project. The design by the Covell Matthews/John Wheatley Partnership will provide 57,000 sq ft of offices and 36,000 sq ft of shopping. It will incorporate an extension to the existing Waitrose supermarket.

The site covers more than three acres and the scheme will comprise low rise retail and office units in a landscaped campus style.

Letting agent for the scheme is Debenham Tewson and Chinnocks. Because of the town's proximity to Gatwick airport.

Morgan Grenfell Property Services, acting for the Industrial and Commercial Property Unit Trust, has sold the freehold interest in Free Press House, Castle Street, High Wycombe, for over £1.5m, to clients of Richard Ellis. The transaction was introduced to the buyer by Cruickshanks Commercial, of High Wycombe.

The property comprises 18,500 sq ft on ground and three upper floors, plus 33 parking spaces and is let to several tenants who include Providence Capitol Life Assurance, the Lex Service Group and the Property Services Agency.

Gerald Ely

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NOTICE is given that the Thames Water Authority ("the Authority") intend after the expiration of one month from the publication of this notice to apply to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food for confirmation of byelaws made under the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975. The byelaws substitute for the Authority's existing byelaws relating to the undermentioned matters, as confirmed by the Minister on the 6th June 1978, new byelaws differing in effect as indicated below:—

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Within one month from the publication of this notice any person may object to the confirmation of the byelaws by letter addressed to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food at, for the purposes of these byelaws, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Room 249, Great Westminster House, Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AE. Any such person is asked to send a copy of any objection to the Amenity and Fisheries Manager, Thames Water Authority, 2nd Floor, Reading Bridge House, Reading, Berkshire RG1 8PR.

Dated this 30th day of March, 1981.

R. A. R. GRAY, Solicitor.

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Notice is hereby given that the CREDITORS of the above-named Company are required on or before the 10th day of April 1981 to send in their names and addresses, with particulars of their Debts or Claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned, K. B. Dal, of 6 Golders Manor Drive, London, N.W.11, the LIQUIDATOR of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing by the said Liquidator, are by their Solicitors or personally to come in and prove their said Debts or Claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved. [This notice is purely formal and all known Creditors have been, or will be, paid in full.]

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Dated this 24th day of March 1981.

K. D. GOODMAN, Liquidator.

COMPANY MEETING NOTICES

QUEBEC CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS

Notice is hereby given that the *ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING* of the Shareholders of Quebec Central Railway Company will be held at the Offices of Canadian Pacific [illegible], Windsor Station, Montreal, Canada, on Wednesday, the 15th day of April, 1981, at the hour of 11.00 o'clock in the forenoon for presentation of the financial statements; the election of two directors to represent the Security Holders of the Company until the next Annual General Meeting of the Company; the appointment of the auditor of the Company; to consider and if thought fit to approve By-law No 24, the purpose of which is to change the wording on the corporate seal of the Company to include the French form of the Company name, and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

By order of the board
R. L. PARTRIDGE, Secretary

Montreal, Quebec, February 6, 1981.

THE LEPROSY MISSION

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of MEMBERS of THE LEPROSY MISSION (INTERNATIONAL) will be held at Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church, Shaftesbury Avenue, London W.C.2, on Tuesday 5th May 1981 at 3.45 p.m., to receive the Annual Report and audited abstracts of Accounts of the year ended 31st December 1980, to elect office-bearers and appoint a Council, and to transact any other business as circumstances require.

THE LEPROSY MISSION ENGLAND AND WALES will hold its Fourteenth Annual Meeting on Tuesday 5th May 1981 at 4.0 p.m. at Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church, Shaftesbury Avenue, London W.C.2, for the presentation of the Annual Report and the election of Council for the ensuing year.

THE JOINT ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING of THE LEPROSY MISSION will follow at 6.30 p.m. when the speaker will be Mr A. D. Askew, International General Secretary, and interviews will take place with Field personnel.

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Books

Letters of progress in a writer's mind

Karen Blixen lived in Kenya for most of the 17 years between 1914 and 1931, except for a few visits home to Denmark. During her time in Africa she experienced the chief dramas and tragedies of her life; these formed the rich compost out of which developed her magnificent oeuvre of memoirs and stories.

After Karen Blixen married her Swedish cousin Bror Blixen on her arrival in Kenya in January 1914 they began to grow coffee on a farm near Nairobi. In addition to proving a hopelessly incompetent manager Bror Blixen infected his young wife with the syphilis that caused lifelong ill-health, and began a series of affairs into the bargain. However, Karen Blixen valued her marriage and was reluctant to separate when Bror announced his desire for a divorce seven years later. But in 1918 she had met the great love of her life, Denys Finch Hatton, a son of the Earl of Winchilsea. He shared with her the things that were to be lasting intellectual and spiritual assets: a love and knowledge of literature and music, the joys of flying, and appreciation of Africa. Denys, though, was one of the post-war young men who could not relinquish their personal freedom, and their relationship, which brought Karen Blixen both ecstasy and misery, was conducted on his terms: he remained a law unto himself regarding how much time he spent with her, in between his professional safaris, on the farm that she continued to run, always at a loss and battling against adverse climatic conditions and every imaginable difficulty.

Eventually their relationship began to sour, although Denys continued to visit and support Karen Blixen through the final agonizing process of selling the now bankrupt farm. Then, as he was organizing the packing, he was killed when piloting his plane over Kenya. This third and greatest blow, following on her broken marriage and the loss of the beloved farm, might have killed a less courageous and steely character. But in one of the last letters she wrote to her brother Thomas from Africa, Karen Blixen said: "... during these difficult months, I have begun to do what we brothers and sisters do when we don't know what else to resort to—I have started to write a book." In her early youth Karen Blixen had written a few short stories, poems and marionette plays. But had always maintained that she did not want to be "a piece of printed matter." But now she realized that if she were not to succumb completely to despair she would have to carve out a new kind of creative life in order to redeem herself as a person. Writing appeared to present a solution.

After Karen Blixen's death in 1962 her letters, written to her mother Ingeborg Dinesen, her brother Thomas, her sister Ellen and her redoubtable aunt, Mary Bess Westenholz, in Danish, remained in the possession of Thomas Dinesen until 1976, when the chairman of the Karen Blixen Society in Copenhagen, Frans Lasson, received permission to read the collection with a view to publication. The two volumes appeared in Danish in 1978. They form a unique document, not only of Karen Blixen's personal life throughout her years in Africa, invaluable as this is for biographers and other scholars, but also of the early years of modern Kenya, of its nature, flora and fauna, of the various African tribes—Karen Blixen had a far deeper understanding of the peoples of Kenya than the majority of the English settlers—and most of all of the development of the writer's mind through her discussions of literature, art, religion, philosophy, the position of women, love, social life, the culinary arts and very much more.

Some of the letters to Aunt Bess are the size and stature of small dissertations. Writing at such length gave Karen Blixen the opportunity to maintain intellectual communication with Denmark and Europe, and to practise the written formulation of ideas; and thirdly to keep up her use of Danish, since she chiefly spoke English in Kenya, and wrote her poetic memoir, *Out of Africa*, and most of her stories in her own elegant and idiosyncratic English.

Probably the most moving parts of this very unusual book are those in which Karen Blixen battles with her demons when writing to Thomas. She peels off layer after layer of veneer, motive, conception, predilection, desire, in her efforts to get to the roots of her personality and to discover the internal and external reasons for her problems. What emerges is the portrait of a character as strong as any of those heroes in the Norse sagas that she knew and loved so well, one who never in her life ceased to be what she called a "yes-sayer". During her happiest times with Denys she would quote from a poem by the Danish poet Sophus Claussen: "Death is nothing, winter nothing"—a belief she always held to.

It was in reply to a suggestion from Aunt Bess that Karen Blixen exclaimed in horror at the idea of publishing her letters. But she never destroyed them. Fortunately for Danish readers, and now English. Her correspondence deserves to rank beside other great collections of letters, like those of Virginia Woolf, or her much-admired Byron.

Anne Born

Isak Dinesen's *Letters from Africa* translated by Anne Born, will be published by the University of Chicago Press in April, 1981. (Karen Blixen is generally known by her pseudonym Isak Dinesen in America.)

Giselle
Coliseum

Judith Cruickshank

Happy the company which can show no fewer than seven dancers in the title role of *Giselle* in a single season. And, when the heroines are of the calibre of the two who appeared in Festival Ballet's production on Friday and on Saturday afternoon, then the company must be happy indeed. Evelyne Desutter, who danced on Friday evening, is from Paris and Lucia Truglia, the matinee cast, is from the Rome Opera Ballet. The EEC has undeniably brought us some benefits.

Desutter is blonde and fragile in appearance. She is unmistakably a French dancer, with all those pretty mannerisms which are a hallmark of the Paris school. But her seeming fragility hides a technique of spun steel, and for such a small girl her dancing has astonishing breadth and scale. She has a big, apparently effortless jump, and pretty feet which she uses well. Large and small steps are executed with the same precision.

Her first act Giselle was very young, almost childish in her love, and so far betrayal and mad scene took on an extra poignancy as she realized that here finally was a situation from which no one could shelter her. In the second act she was as light and insubstantial as one could wish, but still with a touchingly human affection for her faithless lover.

Truglia, tiny, dark and attractive, is as Italian as Desutter is French—and what more suitable in a French ballet made for an Italian ballerina. She adopts a more full-bloodedly romantic approach to the role and her first act peasant girl is lively and vivacious, making good use of her fine, expressive eyes and brilliant smile.

Her dancing is very expressive, her acting clear and well-thought-out. In Act II she was womanly, tender and loving, her dancing soft and aerial, and she used her arms particularly well.

Nicholas Johnson was the Albrecht in both performances, and though he showed flashes of his old brilliance in Act II I found it rather a mean performance; he could have given more generously to both his partners, and in doing so he himself would have looked better.

Rose Royce
Apollo Victoria

Richard Williams

Since leaving the Motown label, where his career began in 1963 with Marvin Gaye's "Pride and Joy" and reached a climax with the Temptations' "Papa was a Rolling Stone" a decade later, record producer and composer Norman Whitfield has concentrated on moulding a nine-strong ensemble called Rose Royce into the finest soft-soul group of their era, using techniques developed on the Temptations' "Just My Imagination" to create dreamy, drifting ballads like "Love Don't Live Here Any More", "Wishing on a Star" and "I Wonder Where You Are Tonight".

Frequent personnel changes have, however, blurred the group's character, and their present British tour has witnessed the debut of Richee Benson, their third female lead singer in four years. At 21, Miss Benson is a precocious stylist, with some of the power and mobility of Chaka Khan and Randy Crawford; like them, too, she occasionally uses a vibrato which harks back to Dinah Washington and Esther Phillips, and she showed it to good effect during Friday evening's concert on a new song called "Golden Touch". It is, nevertheless, unkind to expect her to duplicate the unique gossamer delivery of her immediate predecessor, Gwen Dickey, whose gift was the suggestion, on a ballad like Billie Calvin's exquisite "Angel in the Sky", that she was singing alone in a twilit reverie.

Despite a generally favourable response, the concert was far from satisfying. The ballads were slugged rather than stroked out, far too much time was expended on tawdry audience-participation routines, and Kenneth Copeland, who shares the singing with Miss Benson, really should learn a little microphone technique in order to control his ear-splitting falsetto.



Avaunt! and quit my sight . . . Macbeth (Renato Bruson) and Renata Scotto at the interrupted banquet

Photograph by Donald Cooper

Unsparing passion and dynamism

Macbeth
Covent Garden

William Mann

The first suggestion that Friday night's performance of Verdi's *Macbeth* might be out of the ordinary came when Riccardo Muti took the rostrum and was applauded not only by the audience but by the orchestra too. Sure enough the Prelude was balanced and nuanced with uncommon artistry. The witches' second chorus, "Le sorelle vagabonde", went at a tremendous pace and the ladies of the chorus offered articulation and precision to match it, as the menfolk were later to do when preparing to murder Banquo.

The grand final ensembles of the first two acts were guided by Muti with outstanding passion and dynamism but also with the wealth of musical detail, scrupulously projected, that was to characterize the performance as a whole. Muti demanded the utmost from chorus and orchestra (from himself as well) and they responded all the way in top form. He and they reminded us that, although this is the tragedy of Macbeth and his Lady, Verdi placed their drama against a background of crowds, whether witches, soldiers, courtiers or exiles. He made scant provision for Shakespeare's other characters—only Banquo is given much to sing before his demise early in the second of five acts—but he made sure that his Macbeth would be a splendid choral opera.

Elijah Moshinsky makes the point too in his new production. John Napier's permanent set has steps ascending upstage almost out of sight in a triangular shape reminiscent of an Inca temple. Witches and armies swarm upon them, and in the big choral scenes they are thronged with people, the topmost steps hidden behind palace walls for interior scenes.

The principal soloists act out their drama downstage, on a circular Greek *orchēstra* with a V-shaped projection above the orchestra pit that brings monologue and conspiratorial discussion right forward, almost into the audience. More than once I feared for the safety of Renata Scotto or Renato Bruson on this perilous overhang, particularly in this notoriously unlucky play. Rehearsals had already broken Macduff's wrist, and Neil Shicoff had a plaster cast to handicap his final dual with Macbeth, though his plucky, aggressive spearsmanship did not show it (his spearhead even fell off and he had to be given a new one).

This downstage acting area is helpfully employed to cover scene changes at the back, so that awkward pauses are eliminated; but chiefly with the aid of Nick Chelton's lighting (spots amid stygian blackness, for the most part) it allows the main characters to act as much with their faces as their voices—both Scotto and Bruson have marvellously expressive features.

Bruson's Macbeth lives up to what he told John Higgins in last week's interview on this page, an unwilling, remorseful villain; appalled by the destiny willed for him by his wife, he clutches at the black stone stool over the prompter's box as if mustering physical bravado for the next malifaction, and by his last scene all the reserves have visibly drained away.

Scotto was singing Lady Macbeth for the first time, and it was her return to Covent Garden after 10 years' absence, during which her voice has grown from lyric to dramatic soprano. On records she can sound squally, a venial failing in this part, though few ugly or wobbly notes were to be heard on Friday and she capped an awesome Sleepwalking scene with a perfectly placed top D flat that brought back memories of her *Butterfly* and *Traviata* years ago. The evil in her Lady Macbeth is never gleeful, but agony, horror and remorse. Even her Brindisi at the banquet, a formal, unfestive event without meals or drinks, for all the toasting, is sung coldly, without a smile, the perfect hostess doing a joyless duty behind a regal mask.

Robert Lloyd made a brave, loyal, doomed figure of Banquo, his strong and euphonious bass-less keenly focused than usual, I thought, though the duet "Due vaticini" in the first scene sounded as well as it looked in a thrilling stage tableau. By a stroke of happy fortune this Banquo was able to bring his own son, Marcus Lloyd, to play Fleance and show a nimble pair of heels to his would-be assassins.

Shicoff did Verdi a favour by singing "Ah la paterna mano" with ideal lyrical poise and without tearful exaggeration. Robert Tear made as much of Malcolm as Verdi allows him, more than usual, proving that *comprimario* parts gain by strong casting. Further to the above comments on Moshinsky's production, I will enter a complaint about the spineless staging of Birnam Wood's journey to Dunsinane, which should have been marvellous spectacle, given Napier's mountainous steps.

The "shew of kings"—Banquo's descendants—was fine in shining armour though Verdi would have preferred them also to march over Napier's mountain. To my relief Napier firmly abjures tartan costumes and the kilt in his designs, which are properly sombre. The child apparitions are real children, heard as well as seen on stage. This production is not to be missed while it remains in pristine condition, even if you mourn the demise of the handsome old settings by Wakhevitch, which would now be almost 30 years old.

La traviata
Metropolitan Opera, New York/BBC 2/ Radio 3

Patrick J. Smith

The new production of Verdi's *La traviata* at the Met replaces the one which was first presented in 1966 on the second night in the new opera house. The period has been moved forward, for no apparent reason, to *fin-de siècle* Paris, and encased in Tanya Moiseiwitsch's monumental cut-on-the-bias sets (the country house looking like something abandoned by Napoleon III and Flora's house—indeed palace—like a setting for one of Gustave Moreau's more effulgent paintings). Colin Graham's production is traditional and, apart from a few touches, such as having Père Germont come to Flora's party in his street clothes, unimaginative. The chorus shuttled about to get to their next blocking positions, and never existed as human beings.

The distant coolness that the spaces of the sets implied infected the entire evening, for the predominant impression of this *Traviata* was of a production which will wear well, in the Met repertory sense, over a number of years, but which lacks a unity of purpose and, even more, any immediacy of feeling central, after all, to this specific opera. *Traviata* is about passion and inexplicable loss, about sacrifice and final understanding, and these qualities must be uppermost in any rendering of the opera. Here we were given a conscientious musical run-through, with some rumbustious orchestral playing, but little that touched the heart.

Act III: Domingo and Cotrubas

I doubt that Ileana Cotrubas would be an ideal Violetta in any house, for her voice, though large and focused, lacks amplitude of breath and above all the infinite shades of colour which are vital to this role, particularly in the focal scene with Germont. At the Met she pushed the voice throughout, giving it a hard and often fluttery sound, and thus could neither expand on a moment such as the end of the first act nor express a hushed, pathetic urgency for the reading of the letter in the last. Her singing slid by on rails, and in its reduced intimacy suggested not Verdi's doomed Lady of the Camellias but rather Puccini's far more circumscribed Rondine, somehow lost in an alien world.

Placido Domingo sang with his customary cleanness of attack and considerable presence as Alfredo, but he is today past the effect made when, years ago, he swept Patricia Brooks off her feet in the celebrated New York City Opera Frank Corsaro production (still the best seen hereabouts in recent memory). The voice is now dramatic rather than lyric, and the sonority of its ring which gives authority to the heavier roles, undercuts the youthful ardour of Alfredo. He was never for a moment lost in his passion for Violetta, and though the ease of declamation was welcome in the cabaletta to "De' miei bollenti spiriti" and in the subsequent public humiliation of Violetta, it missed the poignancy and the innocence that this role contains.

Cornell MacNeil, as Germont, brings a fully dramatic baritone to the part, which has its merits, since it projects a vivid and weighted vocal portrait. But MacNeil's voice is today dry and constricted at both ends, and he must rely on phrasing to make his musical points. All too often he gave the impression of an avuncular house baritone doing an evening's job rather than a human being torn between duty and a growing affection.

James Levine sees *Traviata* as an adjunct to the larger-scaled Verdi operas, and not as an inward work. Thus, his musical gestures are broad, mostly rushed, though at times over-leisurely, but always broad-stroked. I have never much liked Levine's way with middle Verdi, and this conception fits badly with the spirit of this opera, for whatever gains are made in pace and electricity are at the expense of the characterization which is built into the orchestra as much as into the vocal writing.

Verdi's *Traviata* contains much more than is given in this "grand opera" production. Perhaps with another cast and conductor the merits of the opera will counterbalance the spaces of the setting to achieve the intimacy and the humanity that Verdi so much wanted.

●*Patrick J. Smith was at the first night of the Met's* Traviata. *Saturday's matinee was transmitted by BBC 2 and Radio 3. The sound quality on Radio 3 was mediocre; but it was the BBC's first live relay from the Met.*

Beside the Sea
Theatre Royal, Bristol

Irving Wardle

The last thing you would suppose from this booming Bristol production is that it is the first performed work of a new author. In the good and the bad sense, Brian Jefferies writes like an old hand with a confident idea of his audience, confidently workmanlike plot-construction and confident use of stereotypes worn smooth by time. His winning entry in the Harris Trust Playwriting Competition might have been lying in J. B. Priestley's bottom drawer for the past 40 years.

Beside The Sea concerns a holiday encounter between two families during a day on the beach, from their early morning arrival to claim the best place to their teatime farewells. One family is common and comes in a caravan; the other is genteel and puts up at the Metropole. However, the children get on like a house on fire; and their elders also discover a shared interest transcending the class barrier. To complete the picture, there is the classless figure of Arnold, a deckchair attendant poet who switches his attention between the two groups in his role as the resort's "professional character".

With such a scheme everything depends on the telling, and so far as structure goes Mr Jefferies has some strong cards to play. In the first place, he understands the importance of environment. Belinda Ackermann's blank stretch of sand becomes polarized as soon as the towels are down: two inviolable territories with all the sanctions of hospitality and exclusion, separated by a neutral area for diplomatic approaches. Inside this magnetic field the three groups are linked in an elegant circle. The Metropole family despise the caravan dwellers, who in turn despise the indigent Arnold, who—as an artist chappie with a posh voice—goes down well at The Metropole. Finally, this static relationship gets moving when the ailing working-class father offers a job to his redundant class superior. This involves a well-organized clash between common sense and inbred British prejudice, leaving you to conclude that if we are to survive it will only be through acknowledging our dependence on each other.

Alas, this timely message is all but erased by Mr Jefferies's chosen messengers. Apart from the generous selection of discount-house beach furniture which Anthony Cornish's production showers on them, there is nothing to connect them with the modern world. They are eternal Little Englanders, as deeply shocked by nude bathing as they would have been in the Boer War. You can just about accept Bill Wallis's garage-owning Dad heaving his sedentary bulk into boisterous beach games, and summoning straying children with a bugle. But when it comes to the Metropole, whom should we find but a henpecked Surrey accountant (Peter Copley) with a Savoyard lady wife who refuses even to shake hands with the unsuitable new acquaintances ("not our type at all"), much less admit that her worm may be contemplating a turn.

My sympathies go to June Barrie in her gallant struggle to humanize a character who would have seemed a stuck-up snob even to the ladies in *When We Are Married*. Ian Mackenzie lends a romantic presence to the unlikely Arnold, and Barbara Young has one moment of superb indignation when the two wives finally come face to face. But the elaborate subterfuges of contemporary class division are beyond the range of these dolls from the bottom of the toy box.

Taboo
Young Vic

Irving Wardle

It is not often that theatre-in-education shows move on to public performance, and I looked forward to a visit to this Young Vic Education and Community Service production which arrived for three nights in the Cut after an Inner London schools tour. Besides the inherent interest of Nigel Townsend's adaptation of Rosemary and Victor Zorza's *A Way to Die*, it is a good example of an extensive and unpublicized area of English theatrical work.

The first priority in such work is to dramatize facts and ideas, as a prelude to questions, discussion, and the conventional teaching process. Where plays in the theatre offer a complete experience, a TIE performance is there to get things started. Acting becomes an advanced form of demonstration for a group of spectators who are shortly to be participants. The house lights stay up throughout Peter Kinsey's production, the company assume and discard characters like different hats, and make their exits and entrances from seats on the front rows.

This sounds a cold-blooded approach to the Zorzas' memoir of their daughter's death, a story of extreme emotional distress and physical pain.

The facts are there, but very little emotional evocation of what it feels like to change from a healthy girl aged 24 into a terminal cancer victim whose only desire is for an end to the torment. The sensations of going through a cruel cycle of false hopes, of developing a vicious invalid temperament, of facing an implacable enemy who simply strikes in another place after every fresh surgical defence: these are all omitted from the piece.

As a result, you are sometimes left wondering why the parents accept the approach of Jane's death with such quiet stoicism, and why they collaborate so readily in her thoughts of suicide.

The omissions, of course, are deliberate. Any adaptation would have difficulty in making theatrically bearable the events which you can just about endure on the page. And for the purposes of this show, emotional playing would immediately blot out its main intentions of raising the issues of justifiable suicide and the uses of medicine for alleviating suffering rather than healing.

Emotionally, the show directs its main force against doctors who treat their patients either as objects or as children who cannot be trusted with the truth. But this is an inescapable consequence of following the Zorzas' line of argument, and contrasting the cure-oriented mechanics of conventional medicine with the terminal loving care of the hospice in which Jane happily died.

On those terms, Claire Vousden, Ruth Lyster and the other members of the team handle the material with tact and truthfulness, occasionally allowing elemental human feelings to show through the spare dialogue and giving maximum weight to the parents' viewpoint, while also leaving it as an open question for the class, or society at large, to decide.

YMSO/Argiris
St John's

Max Harrison

We tend to think of the Piano Sonata of 1945-46 as the piece in which Elliott Carter first spoke with an individual voice. As a consequence, his earlier music has been largely ignored, and the performance the Young Musicians' Symphony Orchestra gave of his Symphony No 1 on Saturday evening was its first public hearing in this country. Composed in 1942, it was revised in 1954, and although the initial Moderato nostalgico contains hints of the wide open prairies, or at least the clear, resonant textures of Aaron Copland and Roy Harris, there also is a lot of Carter in this score.

There are suggestions of Stravinsky, too, if heard through Copland's ears rather than directly, but already an independent cast of mind is evident. We do not know what changes were made in the 1954 revision, but in the 1940s Carter's music was perhaps a development from, and out of, the sense of order found in Copland's work, though already with a wider emotional range implicit. Certainly the symphony displays exact craftsmanship throughout, and shows that the foundations of its composer's later very individual mastery were laid early.

Though one could have done with greater clarity at some points, the performance was a good one. Spiros Argiris, a Greek who regularly conducts at the Cologne Opera, was in charge, and this was in fact his British debut. Although I do not think he had the relationship between the basic tempos of the first two movements quite right, he kept the music moving forward to good effect. Not enough was made of some of the first movement's abrupt shifts of perspective, its sudden changes of texture or switches from loudness to softness. But the typically Carterian rhythmic fluidity of the finale came over well, as did the Andante serioso's feeling of steady linear evolution.

In the latter, the strings, appropriately, sounded austere and rich at the same time, and the gradual changes of speed seemed natural. The closing Allegro vivace is often thin and wiry, and grows rather obviously celebratory at one stage, although even in the coda it is not quite conventional.

Jeremy Menuhin
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Joan Chissell

Many young pianists in the next few months will be paying their respects to Bartok. For Jeremy Menuhin, however, there was special reason to begin his recital on Thursday with a centenary salute. The story of his father's association with the composer at a time of need is already part of musical history.

He chose the sonata dedicated by Bartok in 1926 to his youthful second wife (also a pianist), much of it as pungently dissonant and percussive as the first piano concerto.

But because Jeremy Menuhin is more a sensitive, searching musician than flamboyant virtuoso, it was the slow movement that made the strongest impression on Thursday through the intensity that he drew from its strange, static brooding. Wisely, not making too vicious an assault on the opening Allegro moderato, he had bite and drive in reserve for the barbaric Finale. But he could have made more of its contrasts of dynamics and colour.

In place of the advertised Beethoven sonata Mr Menuhin substituted Bach's E minor Partita, opus 6, as his main classical offering, and in his disciplined, purposeful part-playing he revealed perhaps his potential as technician and artist most clearly.

Only the Allemande and Courante sounded a little furtive in their flow. But the Air, Gavotte and Gigue were as bold and buoyantly rhythmical as the opening Toccata and Sarabande were intimately searching and beautiful.

It was the personal, private nature of a group of late Intermezzi by Brahms that he chose to emphasize after the interval.

His pedalling sometimes blurred the outlines in Debussy's *Estampes*, particularly in "La Soirée dans Grenade" and "L'Isle Joyeuse", but those, too, revealed how much there is to look forward to from this young artist.

Folk Blues
Venue

Richard Williams

The American Folk Blues Festivals have been touring Europe for two decades, but each year, as the old masters fade away and are not replaced by new blood, the task of assembling an effective package must become harder. The 1981 edition justified itself by presenting a couple of authentic giants and one pleasant surprise.

The acoustic country blues were represented by Bowling Green John Cephas, a guitarist and singer, and Harmonica Phil Wiggins, who played together in the gentle, agile Piedmont style. Sunnyland Slim, the 72-year-old Mississippian, showed a rawer side, combining his high lonesome voice and rolling piano style with Lurrie Bell's guitar, Bob Stronger's bass and Odie Payne's drums.

The band stayed on to accompany Louisiana Red, an extrovert who played too much bottleneck guitar and sang too few of his fine topical songs, and Hubert Sumlin, remembered as the guitarist on Howling Wolf's best-known records. Sumlin is a consummate band guitarist, with a stingingly emphatic style of accompaniment, and drove the group into one boogie which would have moved mountains.

The advent of Carey Bell's harmonica was the signal for the music to turn towards solid urban rhythm and blues, mostly featuring Lurrie, Carey's 22-year-old son, who played a young man's version of B. B. King's style and sang with a natural unforced delivery. His version of "I'm Ready" was a solid example of juke-joint dance music; it is a pity (although inevitable) that few other musicians of his age are interested in mastering this idiom.

Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted from Friday's later editions

Giulini's return

The music director of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Carlo Maria Giulini, hopes to return to the orchestra in time for his scheduled concerts at the Hollywood Bowl this summer. Mr Giulini has cancelled all his commitments this spring because of the serious illness of his wife. He will be replaced for the programmes at the Music Center this month by Simon Rattle, the LA Philharmonic's associate conductor Myung-Whun Chung, Herbert Blomstedt and Giuseppe Sinopoli. The last two conductors will be making their debuts with the LA Philharmonic.

The art of song

This year's Touraine Festival, which opens on June 21, will be devoted principally to the art of song. There will be six vocal recitals, the first on June 26, given in turn by Birgit Finnilä, Christa Ludwig, Tom Krause, Barbara Hendricks, Cathy Berberian and Evgueni Nesterenko. In addition Elisabeth Schwarzkopf is providing a series of master classes, three hours each, twice a day, which will be open to the public. Sviatoslav Richter, the inspiration behind the festival, will also be giving three piano recitals.

The cuts being imposed on universities are now so severe that between five and ten could virtually lose their graduate facilities in the sciences, engineering and medicine.

Diana Geddes reports on the crisis in higher education



The lucky ones: Students at Oxford (left) and Warwick. I the next three years 12,000 fewer British school leavers w get places if cuts go through.

Bankruptcy and closures: the grim future that is facing our universities

About 12,000 fewer British school leavers will get places at universities over the next three years as a result of Government cuts in university finance; and some existing students may well have to change university in mid-course as departments in their own universities are forced to close.

The University Grants Committee has estimated that the universities will lose more than a tenth of their income in the same period. That would mean a reduction in academic staff of about 15 per cent and a cut in the total number of home students of at least 5 per cent, if standards are not to deteriorate too much. The cuts in staff and students will be bigger if, as many predict, the income loss is greater.

The Government has not produced figures for student numbers up to 1983/84, although it has admitted that the planned cuts in both the university and the public sectors are "likely to lead to some reduction in the number of students admitted to higher education with increased competition for places".

In allocating a £1,000m grant to universities for the next academic year, it has assumed that the total number of British and EEC undergraduates (or those who count as home students for the purposes of fees) will remain at their present level of 235,000.

Because the intake of home undergraduates has been increasing by about 3 per cent a year, in line with the increase in size of the 18-year-old age group, universities will have to cut their intake this year by 6 per cent, or by nearly 5,000 students, to achieve that target.

The Government therefore appears to have abandoned once and for all the Robbins principle that all those suitably qualified by ability and attainment should have the right to higher education, a principle which has formed the sole basis of successive governments' "policy" on higher education for the past 20 years.

The effects of Government cuts on higher education and students will be one of the central issues at the National Union of Students conference which opens in Blackpool tonight.

Universities have been growing throughout this century, and over the past 20 years expansion has been particularly rapid. Student numbers in universities more than doubled in the decade following the Robbins report in 1963, and the proportion of 18-year-olds going into higher education (universities, polytechnics and other maintained colleges) jumped from *seven per cent to 14 per cent.* That compared with the 2 to 3 per cent who went to university 30 years ago.

The Conservative government's White Paper *Framework for expansion* in 1972 called for further expansion with a target of 22 per cent of the age group in higher education by 1981. In fact, the proportion this year is little more than half that, 12 per cent—significantly lower than the proportion in most other developed countries, although that is the result of British 18-year-olds' decisions not to continue in further education, rather than Government policy.

By 1974, the recession had set in, and the universities found themselves subjected to the uncertainties of funding on an annual basis instead of for the five-year periods they were used to. In the years that followed, student numbers were allowed to rise more rapidly than staff with the result that staff-student ratios (excluding medicine) fell from about 1:8 to 1:10, or about the same ratio as in school sixth forms, and the cost per student fell by more than a tenth. But total spending on universities continued to rise.

In 1978, the Labour government attempted to grapple with some form of policy for higher education in its discussion document *Higher Education into the 1990s*. But, as in the Tories' White Paper, the arguments were almost entirely based on quantitative factors of demography and cost rather than on qualitative questions of what form of higher education we wanted, for whom, for what purpose, and whether what we were already doing was desirable.

The Labour discussion document presented five options of ways to cope with the implications of a continued growth in the 18-year-old age group until 1983, followed by a drop of about one third by the mid-1990s. Predictably, everyone in higher education plumped for the option which allowed for continued expansion, with the expected fall in the number of traditional students being offset by an increase in the number of women, working-class, and mature students.

But when the Conservatives were returned to power in 1979, the economic recession deepened, and the universities received their first shock: the Government announced that it was to stop "subsidizing" universities in respect of overseas students. By 1982-83, some £125 million or 11 per cent would be deducted from their grant. They could, however, they were told, attempt to make good that loss by charging so-called "full-cost" fees, or the average cost per student, which this year amounts to around £4,500.

Unreality rather than panic

The Government promised no reduction in the universities' grant for British and EEC students until 1983-84. That was the position until last December when the Government suddenly announced a cut of more than 3 per cent in their grant for the next academic year; that was followed by the news in the public expenditure White Paper, published earlier this month, of further cuts amounting to some £170 million or more than 8 per cent over the next three years; and that was in addition to the cuts in respect of overseas students.

The reversal of the universities' fortunes has been swift and dramatic, but has so far created a feeling more of unreality than of panic. Many academics talk of a "crisis", but do not really believe yet that it will happen to them.

Individual universities will not know to what extent they will be affected until the University Grants Committee makes its distribution in May of the block grant from Government. The committee is an independent body, consisting mostly of distinguished academics but with some outsiders, which is intended to act as a kind of "buffer" between the universities and the Government, giving advice to both sides but traditionally leaving universities free to conduct their own affairs.

Dr Edward Parkes, its chairman, has promised a "major reshaping" of the university system. That had been planned well before the latest round of cuts, and was designed, as Dr Parkes said in his address to the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals last October, to make universities "concentrate on their strengths, and not support pallid growths which are now never likely to reach maturity".

A greater degree of direct intervention from the committee was now necessary, Dr Parkes said. The laissez-faire philosophy of the past was no longer possible during a period of retrenchment.

Dr Parkes spoke at that time of the necessity for more shared teaching between institutions and for the concentration of research facilities. Now, in the light of the latest cuts, he is talking of the closure of departments and even colleges.

The committee intends to spread the cuts "very non-uniformly", Dr Parkes said earlier this month. That will be reflected in the May distribution of grant which is expected to cover the three-year period up to 1983-84, and which will come with much more specific "guidance" than universities have ever known before; and guidance backed up by the big cuts now contemplated become the equivalent of directives.

Some universities may only lose two or three per cent of grant over the next three years, but others are likely to suffer cuts of 20 per cent or more, in addition to any loss of income due to overseas students. That means some universities could lose up to a third of their income by 1983.

Between five and ten universities could virtually lose their graduate facilities, particularly in the sciences. Others may lose entire engineering or medical faculties, or departments within faculties. Some may escape with slimmer versions of what they have already got. The cuts now being imposed on the system are so big that tinkering is no longer possible.

Unless the Government provides the redundancy money needed to bring about these changes—and the UGC's best estimate is that some £100 - £200m will be required over the next three years, which would wipe out most of the Government's intended savings of some £300m in respect of both home and overseas students—some universities will have no alternative but to go bankrupt.

It is now that the absence of any real policy for higher education is most glaring. The lack of a policy did not matter during the years of expansion, and indeed was probably a blessing, giving individual institutions the freedom to experiment and develop. But now some guidance on what should be protected and what could be discarded might have been useful.

The nearest thing we have to a policy is the four objectives listed by the Robbins Committee as being essential for a properly balanced system of higher education. They are: instruction in skills; promotion of the general powers of the mind; the advancement of learning; and the transmission of a common culture. In the present clamour for greater "relevance" and responsiveness to national manpower needs, it would be *well not to forget* the last three.

The 45 universities in Britain are not a homogeneous group. They are independent bodies which vary greatly in character, age (some more than 800 years old, others less than 20), size (one with 3,000 students, another with nearly 50,000), and income (some receive less than £10m in Government grant, while one, London, receives around £200m).

Little room for manoeuvre

Yet the public tend to view them as a whole, and at present the image is not a kind one. To many, the universities appear elitist, arrogant and complacent institutions, engaged in "non-productive" work, and for too long comfortably cushioned from the harsh realities by taxpayers' money—*(more than 90 per cent of their* income comes from public funds)—yet reluctant to be made accountable.

In the past the universities have cried out when they were pricked; now that the wounds are deep, they should not be surprised that few are rushing to their aid. Some observers, including some inside the universities, believe that there will have to be one or two real corpses before public sympathy is aroused.

The universities argue, and with some justification, that it is foolish to cut them when there are many less respected institutions in the public sector taking in the students they reject, which could be closed. The total planned for spending on higher education in 1982-83 and 1983-84 has not yet been divided between the university and the public sectors, so *in theory* the universities could be given a bigger share than is strictly their due.

But, in practice, there is *little room for manoeuvre.* Universities get two-thirds of the total for higher education, so every 1 per cent cut for them means an extra 2 per cent cut for the public sector, and the public sector is already having to accept cuts as large and unmanageable as those in the universities. Polytechnics and colleges, like universities, will have to shed one in six of their staff over the next three years in order to meet the cuts.

However, there are two big differences. Unlike most university teachers, the academic staff in the public sector do not have tenure, so the cost of their redundancy payments is likely to be much smaller; and, if a maintained college runs into serious difficulties, the local authority could supplement its income from the rates, while a university would have to raise its own additional funds.

Some universities already raise a significant proportion of their income from private sources through such things as patented inventions, research grants, holiday lettings, consultancy fees, and endowed chairs. In the United States, there is large-scale funding by industry of private universities; but British universities feel that there is a limit to which they should, or could, go down the road of turning themselves into business enterprises.

The uneven cuts now planned by the UGC will inevitably lead to a much greater differentiation in the status and prestige of different universities. A once there is a clearer hi archy of institutions, some p haps devoid of all gradu facilities, what will be the ju ification for retaining the incr singly artificial distinct between institutions in public and private sectors?

Education ministers, sen officials at the Department *Education and Science, and* UGC, would privately like see a single system of hig education with, perhaps, a p mier league of institutions, p sibly including some polyte nics, providing a full range undergraduate, postgraduate a research facilities; a seco league with a more restric range; and a third, includ perhaps some universities, w undergraduate provision only

The realization of that vis is a long way off, however. a first step, it is dependent the establishment of an in pendent national body to p and fund higher education the public sector, and that l already run into difficulties

It is impossible to prec what the university system look like in, say, five ye time. The present crisis co prove salutary, leading to beneficial rethinking of pr ities and an overdue prun of dead wood; or it could res in the chaos the vice-chancell have predicted. Much depe on whether the Government willing to put in the necess funds to run down the syst in an orderly fashion.

Either way, however, it w be a painful process for the involved: colleague will be against colleague in the co petition for scarce resource promotion prospects will blocked; some first-rate a demics will find themsel thrown out with the secor rate; and a number of brillia young graduates will be unal to enter the scholarly care to which they are best suit and in which they could be most benefit to the country.

Why the Islamic revival worries Moscow

How far are the current upheavals in the Islamic world likely to affect the 40 million Muslims inside the Soviet Union? The question has been exercising the minds of Western analysts since the revolution in Iran and the invasion of Afghanistan, and was the subject of a conference held by the Carnegie Endowment for Peace in New York last weekend under the chairmanship of Edward Mortimer, at present on leave from *The Times*.

Western experts differ over whether the people of Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, Tadzhikistan, Kazakhstan, Kirghiziya and Turkmenia are really infected with Islamic revivalism or whether the true moving force in the southern republics is nationalism rather than religion.

Some argue that since the vast majority of Soviet Muslims observe Islamic rituals in fundamental matters of birth, *marriage and* death, Muslim identity has taken the place of the worn out ideology of Marxism. Others suggest that Tadjiks, Uzbeks, Kazakhs and the rest are aware of their ethnic identity first and their Islamic heritage second.

What is beyond dispute is that the Russians themselves are aware that something is stirring down in the south, and are greatly apprehensive about the consequences. According to Murry Feshbach of the US Census Bureau, the birth rate among Soviet Muslims is two and a half times higher than in the rest of the Soviet Union, and Great Russians are likely to find themselves outnumbered by the end of the century.

At least one third of the Soviet armed forces will by then be of Muslim origin. The invasion of Afghanistan has left Soviet Muslim soldiers with an abiding memory of Russians in action against their Muslim Afghani brothers.

Afghanistan has also shown that even the Red Army is not invincible, and in the long term that could do wonders for the Soviet Muslims' self-assurance. The Central Asians are in any case self-assured, for the simple reason that time is on their side. One problem giving Soviet planners more than a few sleepless nights is that while the labour force in Russia proper is declining, that of the southern republics is increasing.

Eventually Moscow will presumably have to persuade, cajole or force Muslim workers to move north to established industrial centres. If they do not, the mountain will have to come to Mohammed, and Soviet industry will move southward, in that case the centre of gravity would begin to shift away from European Russia altogether.

The Soviet authorities have *so far tolerated the persistence* of Islamic customs in the southern republics and have established a working relationship with the spiritual leaders of what might be called official Islam. Moscow has even allowed official Islamic figures to travel in the Middle East, promoting the image of Russia as a true friend of the Muslim world.

On the other hand, a powerful "unofficial" or parallel Islam has grown up, and the authorities are finding it difficult to deal with. Unofficial Islam is centred on the traditional village councils and Muslim guilds of Central Asia, as well as on underground Islamic brotherhoods, including those which adhere to the Sufi sect.

Communist officials in the Muslim republics are now publicly denouncing Sufi "bandits" and "terrorists", a sure sign of the extent of official alarm by the growing strength of the brotherhoods. There is talk of the need for vigilance against "foreign agents", widely construed as a reference to the impact on the southern republics of the Islamic fundamentalism preached across the border in Iran.

The Soviet media have also begun to deal openly with the previously taboo subject of rebellion by Basfachi tribesman against Soviet rule in the 1920s and 1930s. As Dr Chantal Lemercier-Quelquejay told the conference, the message from Moscow is clear: We have crushed Muslim resistance in the past, and we will do so again, whether in Afghanistan or inside the Soviet Union itself.

There is no immediate prospect of a new Basmatchi rebellion. For one thing the Russians have been careful to i prove living standards in t Central Asian republics.

On the other hand, revol tionary movements—whet religious, nationalist or both can just as easily take shape a society of rising expectatio as in a society where expe tations are low.

The Russians face a furth Islamic challenge from a som what unexpected quarte China. The Chinese have a su stantial Muslim populatio and recently Peking has be quietly but effectively prom ing its own image as a frie of Islam.

Richard Owe

I know, Judy, let's put on a show of our own

Sometimes I am to be seen, huddled furtively behind the collar of my grubby rainwear, in some of the least salubrious parts of New York. It could be Soho, that area of warehouses between Greenwich Village and Wall Street; or Hell's Kitchen, the desolate tract between Times Square and the Hudson River; or almost anywhere.

A little nervously, I tread the uneven pavements, searching for elusive numbers on grimy, ill-kept doors. Finding the right one, I rattle the handle, open it and duck hurriedly in, normally to be faced with peeling paint, loose floorboards and a smell of mould.

What nefarious purpose, you may wonder, am I about? I am going to the theatre—not the Broadway of mindless comedies or mildly salacious musicals, but the outer reaches of Off-Off-Broadway where, in partial secrecy, the works of such authors as Bernard Shaw, Lope de Vega, Ben Jonson, Agatha Christie and Tom Stoppard are played in forms which sometimes their authors would scarcely recognize.

Having found someone to sell me a ticket (and I shall often meet him or her later as head murderer or detective), I move into the theatre. Often it is hard to distinguish the stage from the seating. Once I found myself entering a British suburban drawing room of the 1930s through the french windows and had to push past potted plants and casually strewn copies of *The Times* before reaching my seat, within answering distance of the prewar telephone on which the murder plot was to hinge.

Although the dilapidated venues give the impression that the shows are *produced* on a casual basis, Off-Off Broadway, like all New York theatre, is in fact highly structured. It operates under the rules relating to seat prices, length of runs and payments to actors. It has its own organization, the Off-Off-Broadway Alliance, to which 88 theatres belong, though Nancy Heller, its executive director, estimates that there are about 200 makeshift theatres in New York in which Off-Off-Broadway shows may be staged.

The alliance was formed in 1972 to cater to the sub-group of theatres that had begun to emerge in the 1960s, one level of professionalism lower than Off-Broadway, the long-standing casual end of the professional New York theatre.

Off-Broadway was created to allow room for experimental theatre which high production costs and comparably high ticket prices ruled out on Broadway itself. When even *Off-Broadway began to get in*stitutionalized, to develop ambitions above (as some saw it) its station, enthusiasts banded together to produce unpretentious plays in cafés and community halls.

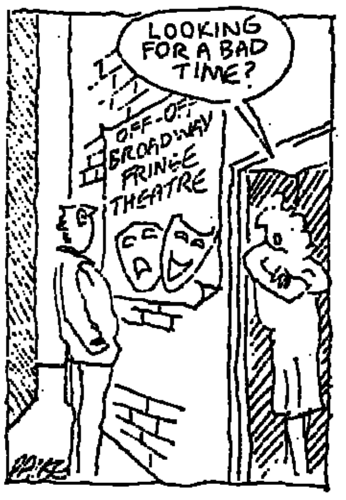
The chief distinction between Off-Broadway and Off-Off-Broadway is that the Off-Off actors are either unpaid or paid a modest expense allowance agreed with the actor's union.

It is a peculiar phenomenon, unique to New York—ironically, a city which in most respects conforms slavishly to the money ethic. Actors and directors who cannot find paid work are keen to practise their craft for no reward except the remote prospect that they will be discovered and become famous. A bit plaintively, they will often put their telephone numbers next to their names on the cast list.

"Ever since Mickey Rooney and Judy Garland made those movies about doing a show, everyone's always wanted to be doing it in New York," said Ms Heller.

But how about audiences? How are they—how are we—persuaded to put down our money, albeit modest sums of five or six dollars, to see shows which could well be of indifferent quality? Ms Heller attributes it to a spirit of adventure.

"They have to be people *willing to put up with the possi*bility of a disastrous evening on the chance that they might be seeing a masterpiece when it's brand new," she said.



On the whole, my own Off-Off forays have avoided complete disaster, if narrowly. I have a weakness for Shaw and follow him to the most unlikely cellars and warehouses, where producers of ambition have decided to regale us with some of his rarely performed one-acters.

The most recent production gave a good idea of why they are rarely performed. It was a wet and cold Sunday afternoon in the East Village. The theatre *was a long, thin room, more a* corridor, with the audience of 15 bunched uncomfortably at one end. Most were friends of the actors.

The first two plays were from Shaw's Russian canon—played, for no good reason, in thick Russian accents which made them barely comprehensible. Just as that, along with the damp of the evening, was beginning to cast a pall, the company came up with a marvellously sprightly *performance of The Dark Lady of the Sonnets* to warm us up for the journey home. It is that kind of unexpected reward that makes it worth it, if on this occasion only just.

The Soho Rep, housed in a former fabric warehouse on the edge of Chinatown, is a fairly typical, middle-of-the-road Off-Off Broadway operation. It illustrates both the rewards and the difficulties of running such a company.

Jerry Engelbach, one of two artistic directors, sat in the front row of the stalls the other afternoon and explained that, when he and his friend Marlene Swartz formed the company six years ago, their objective was to give an airing to "rarely performed great plays"

This spring, for instance, they are presenting four: *The Doctor and the Devils* by Dylan Thomas, Harold Pinter's *Old Times*, a new American play called *The Idol Makers* and a musical by the British writer *Anthony Bowles*.

They attract, says Engelbach, audiences whose average age is in the upper 40s and who go to the New York theatre, in all its manifestations, quite often.

When Engelbach and Marlene Swartz founded the Soho rep, they hoped that one day they could make the leap from Off-Off-Broadway to Off-Broadway, being able to charge higher ticket prices and pay their actors more generously. In the present climate, with a proliferation of small theatres chasing a dwindling amount of financial support, there is no prospect of that.

Even paying the actors $100 for the five-week run of a show—the least they can offer under union regulations—puts a strain on the budget and the theatre is making a loss. They charge $5 a seat, and at an average performance fill 70 of the 100 seats. The lease of their warehouse, which costs $750 a month in rent, expires this year and there is a real question about their future.

If the theatre does close, it will be one less outlet for the thousands of hopeful actors who live penuriously in New York in the hope of getting to tread even such unglamorous boards as these.

"If we held auditions every day of the year we could see 50 people every day without let-up", said Engelbach. "With *the incredible boom* in the entertainment industry in the sixties and seventies, more people felt they could make it.

"Now there's a tight economy, and they still think they can make it. One of the problems is the proliferation of acting schools. The fact that training is available makes people think work is available."

At the other end of town, on Eighth Avenue just west of the main Broadway theatre district, *Phyllis Craig* runs an Off-Off-Broadway theatre of a very different kind. She makes no claim to be doing great plays, simply middlebrow English thrillers, Agatha Christie and the like, which can guarantee to fill a house wherever and (within reason) however they are performed.

Ms Craig worked in London before coming to New York and opening this theatre in 1977. She maintains it as a British repertory with more than a touch of chauvinism—Union Jacks, bulldogs and advertisements for Watney's beer adorn the lobby above the basement auditorium.

She does nearly everything herself, including acting, directing, set design, sweeping up and even writing some of the plays. Her *Bargain for Murder* has been in the repertory for two years and another in a similar vein has just opened.

She pays her actors nothing but still has them queuing to get work. "They all come here trying to make it", she said. "Everyone thinks when they call themselves an actor it's going to be a house in Beverly Hills and a swimming pool."

Across the room, Kerriann Scott, a young English actre who has been with Ms Craig company for 10 weeks, smile She takes casual work as dancer to make ends meet. M Craig has the novel sideline teaching the elements of dra to courtroom lawyers, so the can better sway juries.

Another of her actors, Mi Coleman from New York, is plumber during the day. Trad tionally, many of the une ployed actors take work waiters, which suggests there a connexion between the pr liferation of theatre in Ne York and the equally excessi number of restaurants.

Underground theatre Europe is generally avant-gard or political. I remember as young man sitting with a han ful of other daredevils in th Unity Theatre near King Cross seeing dim left-wing play which probably had deeply sub versive messages if anyon could have interpreted them.

Off-Off-Broadway is very dif ferent from that. People ar prepared to undergo unusua discomforts for the doubtfu pleasure of hearing the in spector with the plummy English accent reveal to hushed drawing-room that was Roger, the ne'er-do-wel nephew, who done it. Not great art; just show business.

Michael Leapman

FOOD INDUSTRY

'Preservers of the harvest' — food processors are a vital link between the land and the larder

Our diets would be tediously limited without the efforts of food processors. We would eat peas only in July, tomatoes only in the autumn and soup only when we took the trouble to make it from raw ingredients.

Food processors like to call themselves the "preservers of the harvest". It is a grand-sounding title which accurately summarizes the purpose of their existence. Yet they have been so successful in bringing us food out of season that we have almost forgotten that the seasons exist.

When we see a tin of vegetables in a shop we do not inwardly rejoice at the skill of the businessman who has brought them to us for less than the cost of a tin of weedkiller or paint. We feel no inward glow of gratitude for the skills which have saved us the trouble of digging, peeling, cooking and storing.

We see the tin of vegetables not as the crowning achievement of a multitude of interlocking talents, but as one of a number of equally dull groceries. Buying them is a chore; eating them a necessity. We tend to associate the food processing industry not with glamour, excitement and entertainment, but with uniformity and cheapness in both senses of the word.

The expert cheese grader is forced to apply his knowledge to the production of a million identical rectangles which, once relieved of their wrappings, look from a distance like bars of soap. The tea taster, whose delicate senses can instantly differentiate the leaf of one estate from that of another, must spend his life compressing the gloriously variegated harvest from the plantations into the relentless uniformity of teabags.

Are the criticisms justified? Is the industry guilty of taking the fresh, crisp and flavoursome offerings of land and sea, and of turning them into a luridly-coloured mush in which the original characteristics are buried beneath a merciless barrage of chemical flavours, stabilizers, emulsifiers and preservatives?

Food processors feel that they are pilloried unfairly. They produce an immense variety of food under hygienic conditions in vast quantities. They keep the population from starving, and the population ignores them or sneers at them.

It is probably fair to say that we are given the food that we deserve. Shoppers have been told for years that the most important thing about food is its price. Companies which produce cheap food have spent fortunes on finding ways of making it cheaper. Thus the price of a long-playing record will buy almost three gallons of soup or a bucketful of jam.

Processors are often accused of squeezing traditional foods and methods out of existence in their determination to increase sales. But they are not in the business of destroying good food. They do not produce ham with the consistency of wet cloth because they are prejudiced against traditional cooked ham. Some companies produce the latter as well as the former at almost twice the price.

They do not manufacture mixtures of palm oil, milk solids and sugar because they object to the use of dairy cream. They do not devise artificially-flavoured fizzy drinks in the hope that shoppers will forget the taste of fruit.

Food processors produce cheap and lurid products in response to public demand. That is the main feature of their existence today, and is a point missed by those who complain that food companies delude consumers through advertising into eating profitable rubbish that masquerades as wholesome food.

Food processsors are in tune with the times, making products that score on convenience and cost before anything else. The principal success of the food industry in recent years has been to enable its customers to save time and money for use elsewhere. There are now as many varieties of expensive music centres in the shops as there are of cheap baked beans.

People travel more than in the past. They spend longer at evening classes and on their own home and vehicle maintenance. Freedom for women has meant freedom from domestic chores. The custom of the morning spent over a hot stove is dying out.

People want food which is quickly bought, prepared, eaten and forgotten. Schoolchildren returning home may once have been greeted with a kipper and a plateful of toast. Today they are more likely to arrive home to find a pot noodle and a packet of crisps.

The food industry has adapted itself to the times so adeptly that it has occasionally almost cut its own throat. Competition has been fierce as companies have undercut each other ruthlessly and mergers have been frequent.

Household names like J. Lyons and Crosse & Blackwell are parts of larger empires. Cadbury Schweppes, which was once associated in the public mind with chocolate and cocoa, now has substantial interests in marmalade, jelly and mash as well. HP Sauce is part of a huge conglomerate which extends from frozen crab to tinned prunes. Rank Hovis MacDougall, which evokes images of flour and bread, is also an important contender in the markets for salt, suet, cake and curry.

The industry is often said to be dangerously concentrated into a small number of large combines whose power to dictate terms to customers and suppliers has escaped the net of the monopolies legislation.

In the chain of food distribution, however, the processor is probably the weakest link. Farmers have banded themselves into powerful unions supported by the strength of the Common Agricultural Policy. Polite requests from processors for it to be changed into a common food policy in which the "preservers of the harvest" would be given equal status with farmers have been almost ignored in Brussels.

At the other end of the scale the retail business is even more concentrated than the food processing industry, with the six largest supermarket chains accounting for more than a third of the national grocery trade. That gives the chains enormous power to dictate terms about prices and deliveries to the food companies. It also means that if a new product is rejected by some of the largest chains, that product is doomed.

The consumer is the final link in the chain and does well out of it. There is variety for all, and those who demand the best quality and variety are catered for. Processors have suffered most from the squeeze on profits caused by a static population and a steady tendency for families to spend less of their income on food.

Their public image is poor. They are accused of spending money on advertising sugared foods that would be better devoted to independent research into tooth decay. They are accused of wasting packaging by putting small products in large boxes and of raising false expectations about their goods with the crafty design of labels.

While they lay themselves open to such claims, their genuine value of "preservers of the harvest" will be obscured.

Hugh Clayton
Agriculture Correspondent



Loaf of fish by Bonita Young.
Photography: Gordon Ferguson

Brussels a source of frustration

In the mid 1970s Sir Guy Lawrence, who is now chairman of the Eggs Authority, was a senior lobbyist acting for food processors. He was once asked about their industry's relations with Mrs Shirley Williams. "She rules us with a rod of iron", he replied gloomily.

Mrs Williams was then a minister in Sir Harold Wilson's Government. As Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection she was portrayed as the nation's chief inflation-fighter. With the Price Commission at her side she tried to curb the increase in the cost of living. Food companies found themselves placed squarely in the centre of the campaign against inflation. It is a position that they know well, for whenever ministers or governments want to show that they are curbing inflation, they invariably pounce on the food industry early in their campaigns.

The industry resents being kept in such a politically-sensitive position, and considers that it has to shoulder a burden which is not inflicted on other sectors. The period since the Conservatives were elected in 1979 has been exceptional.

The present Government acted quickly to fulfil its manifesto pledge to abolish the Price Commission, and the food manufacturing industry danced happily on the commission's grave. Subsequent movements in the cost of living have confirmed the industry's contention that the impact of the commission on food prices was negligible. The rate of increase in those prices is now well below that of the general cost of living as suppliers compete for dwindling sales. The latest official survey of food consumption by households shows that families have been trying to save money by buying cheaper varieties of their everyday groceries. The industry's scramble to sell to families affected by unemployment and short-time working has had more effect than the Price Commission ever managed to exert.

The Conservatives, who invented the commission in the Government of Mr Edward Heath, appreciated by the late 1970s that it was an almost worthless lump of bureaucracy which exasperated industry and raised false hopes in the consuming public.

Today the anti-inflationary fervour of Britain has moved away from food to settle on interest rates and the prices charged by nationalized industries. Food manufacturers nevertheless remain apprehensive, because the looming presence of the Common Agricultural Policy is never far from their deliberations.

The policy is as important to food processors as to

continued on page III

Bovril: restores Britain's reserves

FOOD INDUSTRY

Protein

Search to fill world's hungry mouths

If the population of the world increases as predicted, by the turn of the century the demand for protein will exceed 400 million tonnes a year. Just how the extra volume can be provided by the food and agricultural industries is a bit of a mystery.

Animal husbandry has its limitations. The meat-eating habits of the Western countries place an enormous strain on protein food supplies because cattle are inefficient converters of crops to protein.

Grain used for animal feedstuff would multiply the world's protein supply seven or eightfold if it was consumed as food. The development of fish farming will make only a tiny contribution to supplies of protein; indeed it will probably be too small even to replace the fish stocks being lost for a variety of reasons to the inshore and deep sea vessels.

The effort to maintain the protein supplies of the industrialized countries by intensifying cattle and poultry breeding and increasing fisheries begs the question of the imbalance between the rich and poor populations. Although enough protein is produced to sustain the present world population in theory, the prevalence of protein deficiencies seen as kwashiorkor in starving children shows a failure of distribution and storage of food supplies.

A policy of increasing protein resources solely from animals would make matters worse. Two broad lines of research and development are taking place in the industrialized countries to look for alternative supplies. One is aimed at creating novel sources of animal feedstuff from material which is not suitable for direct human consumption. The other is to by-pass the animal by increasing the consumption of plant protein.



A pig which has been fed with ICI Pruteen.

Ingenious methods of processing vegetable protein have, for example, produced the textured vegetable protein which can be dried and reconstituted into a meat supplement or substitute. There has been an equally long programme of research into the development of supplies of single-cell protein.

Despite many costly setbacks, intensive work on single-cell protein continues.

Single-cell protein is made by growing micro-organisms in a fermentation process in a vat of nutrients consisting, preferably for ease and cheapness, of agricultural or urban wastes. (A microbial protein in the form of a yeast was grown first on a wax-like residue from oil refining more than 20 years ago.)

Experiments with medium-scale versions of the process, producing up to 100,000 tonnes a year of protein for making a supplement to animal feedstuffs, were abandoned. The idea was revived by ICI, which grows bacterial protein on methanol in the largest fermentation plant to be built. It came into operation last year.

The substance made by ICI, called Pruteen, is an animal feedstuff, and it represents the largest application in the world of biotechnology. But the momentum is increasing in the United States, Russia, Japan, India and South America to use substances such as waste carbohydrates, molasses, or crops which will ferment readily — such as cassava — to make the nutrient for growing a micro-organism which has been biologically engineered to give a high yield of protein.

Pearce Wright
Science Editor

Nutrition

Theorists drive you to lentils

Sugar is pure, white — and deadly. Saturated fats give you heart disease. Carrots may help to prevent cancer. Too little fibre means cancer of the bowel, diverticulitis, and possibly heart disease again. Processed, convenience and frozen foods are all rather useful but are poisoning us all.

These are some of the views on food and nutrition with which the public is bombarded. They are many and varied and at times contradictory.

Some are sufficiently horrifying to drive you to a diet of nuts and lentils — provided you can be sure the nuts are free of nasty little moulds called mycotoxins and that the lentils are guaranteed pesticide free — until boredom and the onset of vitamin deficiency disease drive you back.

Even the more conservative experts find themselves offering reasonably firm advice then having to modify it a few years later as the next set of research findings comes up.

As was stated in a Department of Health and Social Security booklet, with considerable candour three years ago: "Nutrition is not an exact science".

The best, although scarcely inspiring, advice that the nutritionists seem able to offer is still the old motto of the British Nutrition Foundation, "variety and moderation", with, these days, certain important riders.

At the most elementary level, nutrition in Britain is not much of a problem. Most people have more than enough to eat and with about 30 per cent of the population overweight, the most widespread nutritional problem is probably obesity.

This is not to say that under-nutrition does not exist even today. Early this century about 70 per cent of children in large industrial towns were affected by rickets, the bone-deforming condition caused by lack of sunlight and vitamin D.

That disease has almost disappeared among white children, but between 5 per cent and 10 per cent of Britain's 900,000 Asians, particularly strict vegans, are still estimated to suffer from the disease.

The elderly of all races remain susceptible to osteomalacia, the adult form of the disease, and sub-clinical scurvy from lack of vitamin C is still found among the old, particularly those with low incomes.

At another level Britain's current diet may be doing much harm. Although the epidemic of heart disease, particularly among men, may at last be reducing, diet almost certainly plays a part in its causation, although smoking and lack of exercise are also key factors.

There is still dispute about which fats in the diet are actually to blame, but there is now general agreement that most people would benefit from cutting their total fat intake, whether in the form of visible fats, such as cream, butter, margarine, meat and fried food, or invisible ones as in cakes, biscuits and puddings. More potatoes, bread, and vegetables would keep up the energy intake while adding more fibre to diet which may well reduce bowel disease and possibly heart disease too.

For those who are overweight there is little alternative to eating less and exercising more, but weight for weight bread, fresh fruit and vegetables are less fattening than fatty foods and more filling.

Brown breads, particularly those with added fibre and bran, are becoming more popular. A Department of Health committee is expected soon to recommend changes in the strict regulations that cover bread manufacture to allow advantage to be taken of recent advances in technology that could make the wider marketing of wholemeal bread easier.

With concern growing in the medical profession about the risks of raised blood pressure, some reduction in salt intake is probably also desirable. Salt is an important preservative, particularly in processed foods, but pressure on food manufacturers to offer low-salt products, at least as an alternative, is likely to grow in Britain as it has in the United States.

Food additives, preservatives and colourings remain a fraught subject, watched over by endless committees both in Britain and on the Continent. With the absolute safety of such substances difficult to demonstrate conclusively, and any risks they carry almost as hard to prove, the best advice for the consumer is again to cling to variety, not eating too much of any one food, or type of food, whether canned, frozen, dehydrated or coloured, to the exclusion of others. There is some opposition to attempts to rationalize and reduce the number of these substances, except where risks can be demonstrated, on the ground that the wider the variety used the lower the intake of any one substance will be.

The revolution in frozen, dried, convenience and processed foods, particularly since the last war, has been viewed with suspicion, particularly by the health food addicts, but the evidence is that on balance they have added variety to the diet, encouraging people to eat a wider range of food. The fact that frozen food in particular is fast-frozen fresh means its nutritional value is comparable to fresh food, and in the case of vegetables that have been transported to market, rested in the shop and been stored in the home before use, it may well be superior.

Despite the changes in foods available compared with 50 years ago, the advice still remains much the same — variety and moderation, with less fat, more fibre, less sugar and probably less salt, and more fruit and vegetables. As Dr Juliet Gray, the scientific director of the British Nutrition Foundation, says: "It sounds boring, but it happens to be right."

Nicholas Timmins

Additives

Artists in colour

The food technologist h[as] become quite an artist ov[er] the past few years. With [a] tinge of yellow here, [a] tincture of blue there, or t[he] merest trace of some oth[er] dye, an anaemic-looking [tin] of peas or pot of jam [is] transformed to mimic t[he] natural splendour of t[he] produce.

Colouring agents ma[de] from plant extracts a[nd] molecules synthesized in t[he] laboratory are not the on[ly] additives to foods. Hundre[ds] of other compounds act [as] preservatives, stabilize[rs], flavourings, emulsifiers a[nd] thickeners, but few of the[m] provoke the controver[sy] which surrounds the reg[u]lations for monitoring t[he] safety of colouring com[pounds].

The British kipper w[as] threatened when bureaucr[ats] in Brussels were advised t[hat] the substance BFK ("bro[wn] for kipper"), which giv[es] kippers their distinct[ive] appearance, did not m[eet] regulations. That storm [has] cleared, but far more wi[de-]ranging rules are bei[ng] prepared by the EEC [to] harmonize the differen[ces] between nations over th[eir] colour preferences.

In principle the re[gu]lations are concerned w[ith] health and safety. Subst[an]ces are derived into thr[ee] categories: those whi[ch] must not be banned [in] Community countries, th[ose] which may be permitted, a[nd] those which are prohibit[ed]. Each additive has to satisfy [a] scientific committee in Br[us]sels which examines d[ata] from toxicity tests.

Several colouring age[nts] are expected to fall at t[he] hurdle because tests will [not] be done in time for [the] substances to be register[ed]. The cost of producing [the] required information is m[ore] than £40,000 for each age[nt]. The work after which nin[e of] the main colouring mater[ials] have been approved for [all] the Community countr[ies] cost £1m.

A substance known [as] yellow 2G, which had been [in] general use in the Unit[ed] Kingdom, has been dropp[ed] because the amount [of] demand did not justify t[he] price of safety trials. Bri[l]liant blue FCF, which is [in] great demand by most cou[n]tries, has passed the scie[n]tific committee but is stu[m]bling through the E[EC] economic committees, whe[re] it has also to find approv[al]. (That is where power[ful] forces can loom suddenly [to] satisfy the anti-colour lob[by] of a particular count[ry]. Arguments about other ad[di]tives are not as emotive [as] those about colour.)

There are food colourin[gs] which only the British a[nd] Dutch use, and there a[re] processes which the Italia[ns], for instance, resist because [a] natural if pallid hue [is] preferred to the artifici[al] enhancement. Beauty is [in] the eye of the consumer.

P.W

Cost pressures and slim profits make for big squeeze

Cost pressures cut deep on food manufacturers. At the same time, profit margins are dangerously slim. This leaves the industry like a sandwich filling that is being progressively squeezed -- a description of the dilemma by Mr Barrie Williams, deputy director general of the Food Manufacturers Federation.

There are four main cost pressures. The proportion of costs to every £1 sale of manufactured food sold is 55p for raw materials, 15p for labour, 10p for packaging (glass and metal containers as well as cartons and bulk packaging) and anything between 2p and 15p or more for energy.

The decline in world trade has tended to stabilize prices of raw materials and the strong pound is an advantage to buyers. Against that, food manufacturers have had to contend with problems posed by the European Community's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).

This year's wage round is now going on and individual settlements so far indicate that the cost of labour will increase by between 7 and 8 per cent. Last year wages went up by about 16 per cent and in 1979 by 19 per cent.

The trade unions are pressing for a reduction in the 40-hour working week in the industry and the cost to companies would be substantial. In view of the overall squeeze on the industry, a settlement on that issue at present seems unlikely. Some sectors still expect a certain amount of overtime to be worked but in others, such as canning, there has been much short-time working.

As well as cost problems, food manufacturers face shrunken net profit margins. These now stand at between 3 and 4 per cent, compared with the 5 to 7 per cent of the 1960s and early 1970s.

Cost pressures, together with the effects of the strong pound on export pricing, make the exporting route to increased volume more difficult. Exports account for only 5 per cent of manufactured foods at present, but the federation believes this could be boosted to 15 per cent or more if the industry were to concert its efforts.

In November 1980 the federation launched a five-year export initiative. Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, said: "Throughout history Britain has been a food importer. Unlike our competitors we have not had the necessity to export food in order to live."

Exporting strategy will be among the issues explored at tomorrow's London conference, organized by the federation, on the theme "The big squeeze: food costs under pressure".

Raw materials

EEC protectionism over agricultural products, enshrined in the Common Agricultural Policy, can disproportionately affect the British food industry partly because of British eating habits.

The sort of bread Britons like can be made only with a high content of the so-called "hard" wheat from North America, which is subject to import levies to get into EEC countries. Hard wheat imparts to bread the keeping qualities Britons have come to expect and to which the bread industry is geared.

Use of soft wheat from within the EEC makes sense only if Britons could be persuaded to prefer French-style bread, which quickly goes stale, and if much of the baking industry were restructured.

Hard wheat is one of the raw materials from which the Food Manufacturers Federation (FMF) would like to see import levies removed.

There are others important for the British food makers, such as maize and long-grain rice. The FMF has been particularly unhappy about the levies on long-grain rice, which is used as a vegetable dish, unlike the more usual round pudding rice.

Italy, the only sizable source of long-grain rice within the EEC, can supply only its own needs. But the writers of EEC import rules have so far refused to recognize the need for levy dispensation to import from outside the Community, declining to differentiate between the long-grain and round varieties.

Levies should be revised on dehydrated onions and on orange juice, the FMF believes. Natural honey, for which EEC production cannot cope with demand, should have tariffs either removed or substantially reduced, the FMF claims.

When food mountains build up, the food manufacturers would like to see the problem dealt with by normal market forces rather than by prices being artificially kept at higher levels. Half the raw materials used by British food manufacturers are governed by the CAP, under which price support can be given.

There is the hope, faint as it may be, that some of these problems might be tackled now that the implications for the CAP of the accession of Greece, to be followed by Spain and Portugal, have to be assessed.

The entry of these countries could help the British food manufacturers because the enlarged EEC should be more self-sufficient in a range of raw materials to which there would be easier access.

A problem arising out of selective EEC aid is the help given to tomato growers and in turn the tomato concentrate processors in Italy. As a result, the FMF claims, Italian ketchup makers, who in 1978 had less than a 1 per cent share of the United Kingdom ketchup market, now have a market share of about 8 per cent.

Longer term, there remains the possibility that moves towards harmonization within the EEC might lead to the imposition in Britain of value-added tax on all main foods. (So far only ice cream, snack foods and foods such as chocolate-covered biscuits are taxed.) Such a gearing up of food prices would inevitably — and perhaps intolerably for some — increase pressures on food manufacturers to check price rises by cutting their slim margins even more.

Energy

Immediate energy costs faced by food manufacturers within their own factory operations are, compared with some industries, fairly small as a proportion of total costs; they amount to between 2 and 5 per cent.

But there is an energy cost element in, say, the can that the food manufacturer buys to package cooked beans. The food makers contend that this should be counted as part of this energy bill. On that basis, fuel accounts for anything between 8 and 26 per cent of total costs.

But more direct energy costs are high for some manufacturers. Those who dehydrate vegetables find that energy accounts for between 10 and 15 per cent of their total costs. For tomato-growers with greenhouses to maintain, the proportion of direct costs rises to as much as 48 per cent.

With energy tariffs in 1980 up between 35 and 40 per cent, food manufacturers say that the overall costs for the industry have in consequence risen between 4 and 13 per cent. That is why they joined in a widespread industrial campaign to obtain energy prices more comparable with those in some competitor countries in Europe.

One way of reducing energy costs may be to switch to coal-burning, particularly from oil-burning — where boilers can be more readily adapted. Among several experimental installations that use coal — the present cost of which is about 25p a therm, compared with the 25p to 32p of gas and oil and the 108p of electricity — is a fluidized-bed boiler at tomato growing nurseries operated by the Co-operative Wholesale Society near Hereford. This installation, as flexible as an oil-burner, has been sufficiently successful for the installation of a further one to have been planned. Many forms of conservation are being developed. Four-stage instead of three-stage evaporators are making the production of dried and condensed milk more energy-efficient.

By applying the principles of the heat pump, heat used in milk pasteurization which has hitherto been lost in the cooling water can be reclaimed. In canning, the use of continuous retorting processes can reduce by three times the amount of energy consumed in cooking in the atmosphere.

The problem with such energy conservation systems is invariably that they entail a greater capital cost in equipment. Mr David Hoskin, chairman of the Food Manufacturers Federation Energy Committee — he is also, as group general manager for supplies and services, in overall charge of energy conservation for the Co-operative Wholesale Society — commented: "In the low-profit-margin food industry there has to be considerable incentive to adopt these systems, and I believe there is a case for some form of assistance to get more of them into operation."

Packaging

The costs to the food manufacturers of various forms of packaging — from glass jars and metal cans to laminated bags and cardboard cartons, as well as corrugated cases — are proportionately at their lowest for two years or more.

This arises from two factors: overcapacity in a number of packaging sectors and the strength of sterling, which makes imports cheaper.

Overcapacity has tended to arise for two reasons. One is the drive for efficiency among packaging manufacturers, which has resulted in the commissioning of many new plants with higher volume outputs. The other is that many plants were brought into operation, or planned, before the oil crisis in the early 1970s affected world trade.

The domestic supply of metal cans was once dominated by Metal Box, but there is now increased competition from plants set up in the United Kingdom by the two big United States manufacturers, American Can and National Can.

There is more equilibrium between the supply of glass containers and the demand for them, but the fact that glass manufacture is a continuous process poses a problem, in that production runs ahead of demand in winter (when stocks are allowed to grow) and below it in summer (when the stocks act as the buffer).

If demand forecasts go awry it is easy for shortages to occur in a good summer that has led food manufacturers to turn, at first temporarily, to overseas suppliers. But — especially with sterling cheapening the cost of foreign products — the links with overseas suppliers have become firmer and overall competition has increased, thus tending to keep all glass container prices down.

Consequently, whereas two years ago glass manufacturers could fairly readily pass on to the food manufacturers any extra costs, greater effort now has to go into containing cost increases by improved efficiency.

Increased import competition because of the effect of the exchange rate has also restrained price increases in paper and board cartons and in flexible packaging such as multi-ply laminates — pouches for foods like dry soup mix.

Derek Harris
Commercial Editor



Research which has brought us the leafless pea and the pipless orange has now given us the soil-less glasshouse. These tomatoes have been grown in a solution in flowing water of the nutrients which occur naturally in soil. Here an operator peels back the rim of the plastic channel to reveal the submerged roots. One advantage over soil is that the rows of liquid-fed plants can be stacked on top of each other.

Brussels a source of frustration

continued from page 1

farmers. The price levels decided by ministers in Brussels at the end of each spring help to determine the costs of grocery ingredients. In one sense the impact of the policy is even greater on processors than on farmers.

The policy operates through prices for the produce of farms in the Community which are strengthened by tariff barriers against undercutting from competition from outside the Community. The farmer is concerned only with the price of his sugarbeet. So long as he is not undercut by cane, which cannot be grown in most of Europe, he does not mind what happens in the cane market.

For many food manufacturing operations, it does not matter whether the sugar ingredient is derived from beet or cane. In a few cases cane is preferable to beet. Food manufacturers feel after more than eight years of British membership of the EEC that they are still elbowed aside by farmers in the food politics of the Community.

They occasionally issue appeals for the Community to adopt a common food policy. But the policy enshrined in the Treaty of Rome remains obstinately agricultural. Its prime intention is to maintain the living standards of farmers and their families, and the question of ingredient supply is subordinated to that.

Food processors, rather than shoppers, are the largest buyers of farm produce. Just as shoppers would not want their high streets to be dominated by one grocer, so food manufacturers are reluctant to have their needs served by one supplier, in the collective form of the EEC farmer.

That is why they campaign for supplies to be allowed from outside the Community of such raw materials as sugar, beef, butter and other fats. They feel condemned to a role of trying to influence events in retrospect. They are given a negotiating position in the Brussels hierarchy, and they have allies in the Commission who feel that the influence of the agricultural lobby is excessive.

But the system remains one of fixing prices for farmers, and everything else in the economics of food in the European Community stems from that. Food manufacturers have managed in recent years to increase their influence over the agricultural policy, but they have failed completely to change the nature of the policy.

The frustration of the food processing industry does not end in Brussels. For years its leaders have written to successive Chancellors asking for the removal of value-added tax on the small group of foods which attracts the standard rate. Those foods, which include crisps and chocolate biscuits, were once saddled with purchase tax because they were considered to be luxuries.

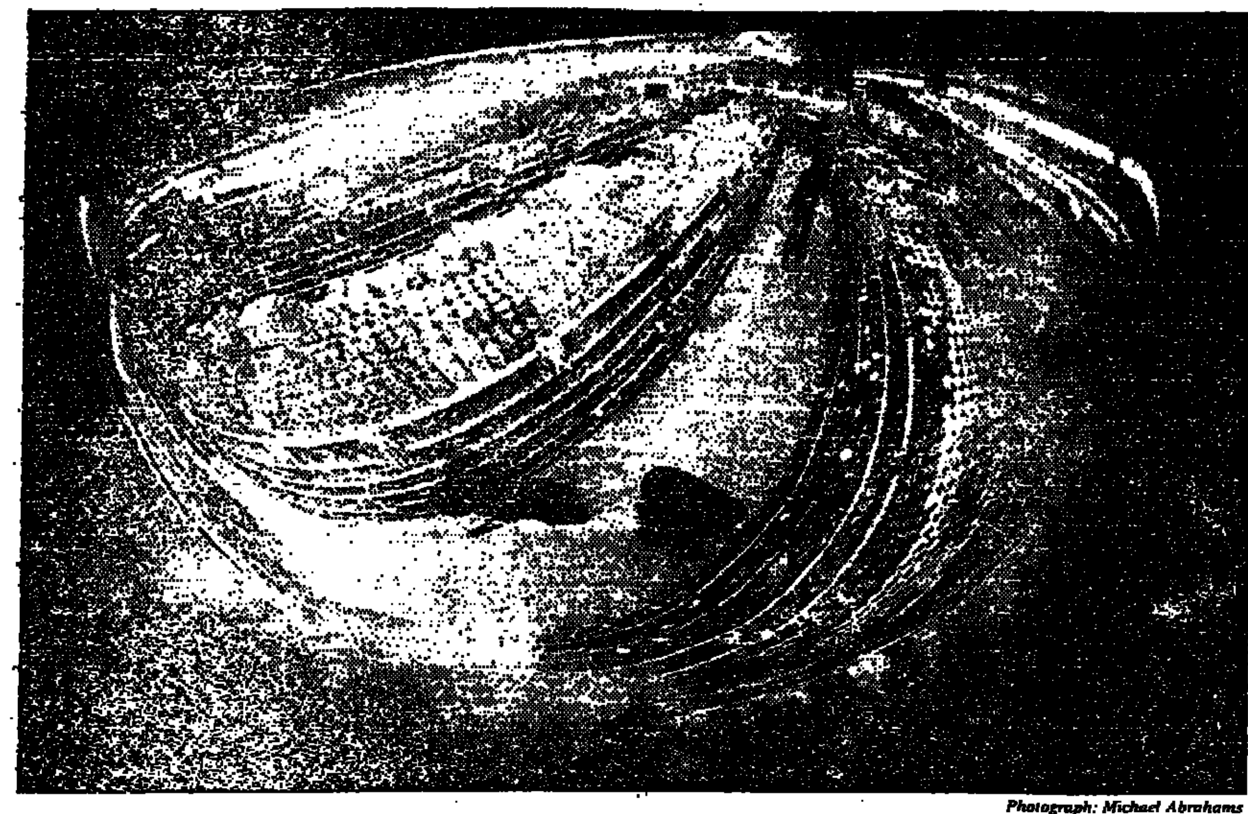
It was considered inappropriate to exempt from purchase tax foods which were not necessities. When purchase tax gave way to VAT those foods remained taxed. The industry argued vainly that it was ludicrous to tax a cheap packet of crisps while allowing caviare to be sold tax-free.

Hugh Clayton



Groceries

Retailers survive recession better than manufacturers



Photograph: Michael Abrahams

The High Street war began in the late 1970s because shoppers were reducing the proportion of their income that they spent on food. Supermarket chains, led by Tesco, decided that extensive price-cuts were needed to stimulate what is known in the trade as "customer traffic".

The war was fought on two fronts. The supermarket chains were doing battle with the manufacturers who supply them as well as with each other. Company results have shown in the past few months that the grocers have been more successful than the manufacturers at insulating themselves from falling demand.

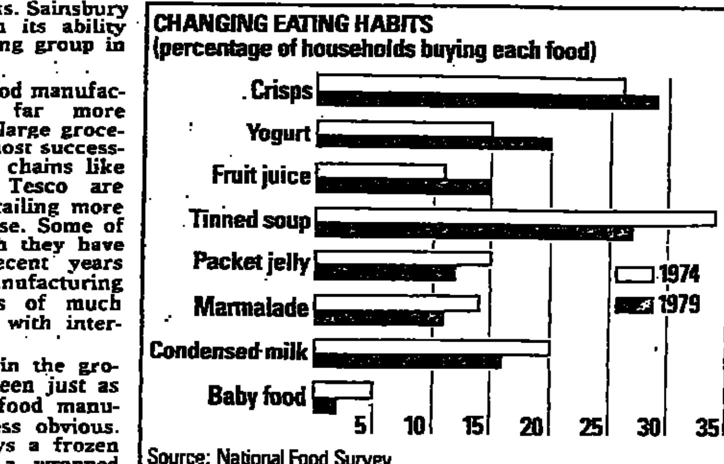
The manufacturers have produced a succession of layoffs, factory closures and profit cuts in recent months. The food retail trade has fared much better. J. Sainsbury, which enjoyed a spectacular increase in profits in 1980, must rank as one of the most successful of all food businesses in Britain.

Sainsbury has been less tempted than other food retailing companies to diversify into paperbacks, tape-recorders and lawnmowers. Unlike large companies in the food industry Sainsbury is not part of a large multinational empire with interests in many markets on several continents. Sainsbury lives or dies on its ability as a food retailing group in Britain.

The leading food manufacturers sprawl far more widely than the large grocery chains. The most successful supermarket chains like Sainsbury and Tesco are committed to retailing more than anything else. Some of the chains which they have overtaken in recent years are, like food manufacturing companies, parts of much larger combines with interests elsewhere.

Concentration in the grocery trade has been just as extensive as in food manufacturing, but less obvious. Anyone who buys a frozen chicken leg or a wrapped loaf knows that it comes from a factory rather than a farmyard or a cottage bakery. Customers of the largest retail chains do not yet appreciate the power of their owners to dictate terms to their suppliers.

Four out of every 10 grocer's shops in Britain closed in the 1970s. By the end of the decade supermarkets took almost 60p in every pound spent by consumers on groceries, compared with 44p at the beginning. Five chains, including Sainsbury and Tesco, together account for more than a third of all retail trade in dry groceries in Britain.



The concentration of the trade meant that in 1979 there were 255 key buying points accounting for 81 per cent of national grocery turnover, compared with 344 points and 75 per cent in 1975. The implications of those figures for food manufacturers are awesome.

Companies are played off against each other in what has become a buyer's market first for grocers and now for shoppers. The power of grocers to dictate terms extends well beyond prices. Salesmen working for manufacturers find that to win an order from a supermarket buyer they must not just deliver their wares, but display them on the shelves as well.

Manufacturers complain that their sales forces are being used to save labour costs in supermarkets. But they know that they cannot afford to refuse to supply a large chain, which may have hundreds of shops scattered across much of the country.

CONSUMPTION OF FOOD AT HOME
(oz per head per week)
☐ White bread
■ Brown bread
30 25 20 15 10 5
1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980
third quarter of each year
☐ Butter
■ Margarine
6 4 2



Source: National Food Survey

Brand loyalty has been weakened in the frantic price-cutting of recent years. The main message from the supermarket trade to its customers has been that the most important thing about food is its price. That has made it more difficult than ever for manufacturers to establish any sense of brand value in the minds of shoppers.

Mr Peter Firmston-Williams, managing director of the Asda chain of supermarkets, said in February that the growth of own-label goods was eroding the strength of brands. Such goods are those sold under a supermarket name rather than that of its manufacturer's brand.

Own-label goods are almost always sold more cheaply than the branded equivalent. Key Markets tinned soup is thus cheaper than Heinz tinned soup. Such goods allow grocers and their customers to sell and buy the same amount of food for less. The loser is the manufacturer, who must still buy the same quantity of ingredients.

Ten years ago own-label goods were clearly perceived as cheap alternatives to goods that carried well-known brand names. Shoppers realized that the own-label goods would be of lower quality. The tea would be like gunpowder, the sauce more watery and fish fingers smaller.

There are now signs from market research that the division between the two classes of grocery is not seen so clearly by shoppers. The cut-price own-label product is seen not as a cheap and sometimes nasty alternative, but something as desirable as a product which carries a well-known brand name.

The implications for manufacturers are grim. If their brand names lose appeal in the eyes of shoppers, there will be even less incentive for a grocer to order one brand rather than another. The power of the grocer over the manufacturer who supplies him will be even greater.

Hugh Clayton

The future

A new smash hit needed

The aim of marketing experts in the food industry is to discover the next fish finger. The term is imprecise: the experts do not really mean fish finger, although it is intriguing to speculate about replacing the present yellow oblong with, say, a green cylinder.

When the industry talks about the next fish finger it is thinking about something as yet undiscovered that will exert the same enduring hypnotic power as its predecessor did, over many of the families of Britain. The food market is thought to be ripe for a new smash hit, greater than custard powder, mightier than instant mash and more stupendous even than soft margarine.

When the fish finger reached Britain from the United States it was seen as a curiosity. Sceptics felt that frozen foods were unlikely to make much headway because of the expensive apparatus needed to preserve them in shops and homes. Now that more than 25 years have passed, it is clear that the fish finger is one of the most important grocery innovations of the postwar years. Rivals made from bacon and chicken have failed to shake its supremacy.

One of the strongest candidates for the role of the fish finger is the frozen pizza. This disc of dough, with its bright red savoury spread, has claimed the loyalty of many who know little and probably care nothing about the origin of the dish. It has a combination of attributes which mark a modern grocery success.

It is easy to devise something that is cheap to make and durable enough to survive the journey from factory to table; and fairly simple, too, to concoct a product with sufficient novelty and variety to make it more enticing than such traditional items as tinned beetroot and prunes. Only rarely, however, can all the attributes be brought together under one wrapper. It has happened with pizza, which explains why, in the depths of the recession, one large frozen food company has chosen to spend £1,500,000 on a computerized pizza factory. It has been built, perhaps appropriately, in an old fish-processing plant.

The seers of the food industry want to look beyond the immediate future. They already know that in the next few years a greater proportion of meals will be eaten outside homes, and that more fresh food than ever will be sold in supermarkets. They do not need to be told that the future looks brighter for pâté and instant noodles than for tinned rhubarb and processed milk puddings.

They are looking forward to the end of the century, when many homes will probably be so minute that while there will doubtless be room to eat and sleep, there may not be enough to store and prepare food. There will be a small but secure place for expensive prepared meals with higher profit margins than most other groceries. Some householders will gladly pay restaurant prices for the chance to entertain at home by microwaving their packed portions or by boiling them in the bag. Space-saving will probably become as important in what marketing men call the "in-home situation" as money-saving has been in recent years.

FAST FOOD INVADERS
EAT WHAT YOU SHOOT

Frozen food, with its demand for bulky and expensive storage equipment will be vulnerable to successful new developments. Food packed in tins and cardboard boxes will be vulnerable because it will appear antiquated and dull if it retains many of its present guises.

Food-freezing will probably turn out to have been the most important development in the mass grocery market in the second half of the twentieth century. It will not survive on its present scale if someone invents a process that offers food with the good flavour of frozen produce and the low price and minimal storage demands of a tin. It may exist already in the form of the retort pouch, an unattractively-named container that combines much of the flavour of frozen food with [the] simplicity of a tin, but wi[th]out its weight. The ret[ort] pouch can be found as covering on some contin[en]tal sausages and as a [ ] covering for some dis[hes] that are cooked by boil[ing] and that can be stored [at] room temperature. The m[ain] drawbacks of the meth[od] today are its slowness [and] high cost.

One obstacle to new dev[el]opment is that people [are] often rather offhand ab[out] their food. They regard it [as] a necessity to be gulp[ed] down and forgotten, so [that] it creates the briefest po[ss]ible interruption in a bu[sy] life. Food processors rec[og]nize that one of their gr[ea]test challenges is to ma[ke] food interesting, so that e[at]ing is treated by families a[s] recreation and not as [a] chore.

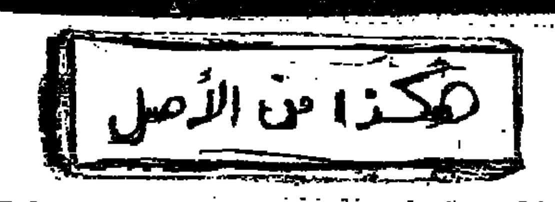
The growth of supermark[ets] in the 1960s and 1970s [was] based on telling consum[ers] as often and as loudly [as] possible that the most [im]portant thing about food [was] its price. Supermar[ket] barons no longer want th[eir] stores to be warehouses [in] which the monotony of [the] displays is relieved o[nly] by placards proclaim[ing] "Cheap", "Bargain" a[nd] "Save".

The modern supermark[et], having helped to supers[ede] the traditional street of m[any] shops, now tries to borr[ow] the appearance of such [a] street. Bread is no longe[r a] row of wrapped loaves, bu[t] produced in a number [of] varieties, with some care [in] an "in-store" bakery. Mea[t is] not a static display of Ce[llo]phane-wrapped cuts, but prepared by staff in stri[ped] aprons visibly sawing [and] chopping in the backgrou[nd].

These departures fr[om] custom are part of a ca[m]paign to make food intere[st]ing and attractive and [to] persuade shoppers t[hat] cheapness and speed are [not] necessarily the most impo[rt]ant characteristics of mea[ls]. The size of the task is ill[us]trated by a recent survey [of] take-away meal shops [of] American origin, wh[ich] stated: "Use of these ty[pes] of outlets is seen as a co[n]venience, rather than [an] occasion. Customers felt th[at] they offered good value [for] money, a fast service a[nd] were clean and hygie[nic]. However, only half of th[e] patrons believed that [the] food was nourishing."

H.C.

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COMING UP AGAINST REALITY

Any new American Administration must be allowed a period of grace in which to get organized. The structure of the American system makes a smooth entry into power almost impossible. Whereas a new British government takes over—or is taken over by—a smoothly running professional Civil Service the new American President has several thousand jobs to fill and a huge retinue of followers jostling to take them. He has to re-create a substantial part of the machine from scratch, as well as deciding the policies it is to pursue.

President Reagan is having a particularly rough start for two main reasons, one institutional and the other political. His institutional problem is to end the corrosive and distracting rivalry between the State Department and the National Security Council which has dogged so many previous Administrations. Ever since the days of President Kennedy foreign policy has been shifting to the White House where the NSC has the advantage of being physically near the President and under his direct patronage and control.

The shift made some sense in so far as the NSC is well placed to bring together all the different departmental interests which are now involved in foreign policy but it was taken to extremes by President Nixon, who suffered from an obsessive distrust of established bureaucracy and found in Dr Kissinger the ideal partner in circumventing it, even as Secretary of State. President Carter tried to redress the balance but was never able to settle the policy differences between the two bodies, and he left the NSC in the hands of a particularly assertive and ambitious man.

President Reagan rightly decided to shift the balance back in favour to the State Department where he hoped to find the professionalism necessary for a coherent foreign policy. He chose Mr Haig as a strong and well-known figure to head it, and gave the NSC to Mr Richard Allen, a man of politically much lower rank who was apparently ready to play a less conspicuous role than his predecessor. Mr Haig grasped the opportunity with both hands and seemed set to become, as he himself described it, the President's "vicar" in foreign policy.

He is now finding that things are not so simple, and has come near to resigning over the appointment of Mr Bush, the Vice-President, as head of the NSC's crisis-management operation. Not that Mr Haig would necessarily have expected the job himself but the way in which it was announced, and the lack of consultation, made it clear that opposition to Mr Haig is increasing. In the eyes of the White House he has over-reached himself and is now being taught a lesson.

Although the opposition this time comes not from the NSC but from the President's own entourage, headed by Mr Ed Meese, it obviously raises fears that relations between the State Department and the White House are going to be as messy under Mr Reagan as under his predecessor, especially as there has already been a confusion of signals emanating from different parts of the Administration.

He came to office with a very simple view of the world as being largely explicable in terms of rivalry between the United States and the Soviet Union. He also believed, on the basis of opinion polls, that the public had recovered from defeat in Vietnam, was "tired of being pushed around" and was ready for more assertive policies. His main priority in foreign policy was therefore to build up the military strength of the country and show that he was ready to use it.

The impression of incoherence now emanating from Washington is to a great extent the result of these simple assumptions coming up against the complexity of reality. The first attempt to put the new attitudes into practice in Salvador has not been a success. The distinction between the forces of good and evil turned out to be less clear than was thought. The Europeans remained sceptical of Washington's solutions, and even American public and congressional opinion is now wavering. In southern Africa and the Middle East, too, it has turned out more difficult than expected to produce policies which reconcile reality with the platform on which Mr Reagan was elected. And on the big central issue of relations with the Soviet Union it is becoming difficult to resist pressure from Europe and other quarters to explore the possibilities for negotiation with rather more earnestness than was at first envisaged.

Part of Mr Haig's problem is that it has been his job to put these problems before members of the Administration with less experience in foreign affairs. In doing so he has increased the suspicion with which conservatives still regard him because of his association with Dr Kissinger. He may seem a hard-liner from this side of the Atlantic but in Washington some people still associate him with détente and watch him closely for signs that he is still infected. It is, however, precisely because he combines a robust attitude towards the Soviet Union with awareness of the need to keep East-West communications open that he enjoys a great deal of trust in Europe. The men around Mr Reagan should therefore realize that if they cut too much ground from under his feet they are liable to make it even more difficult than it is already to bring American and European policies together.

RONALD BIGGS IS NOT ROBIN HOOD

It is hard luck on Mr Ronald Biggs to be spirited away from his haven in Brazil to find himself the subject of extradition proceedings in Barbados. But he does not deserve the sympathy he appears to be getting from the British public. Even if the thirty years' prison sentence imposed on him was excessive, warranted neither by the offence nor by his part in the conspiracy, he was nevertheless implicated in a serious crime which involved the use of violence and resulted in serious injury to the train driver, and possibly to his premature death. The picaresque romanticism which fugitives from justice naturally excite should not be allowed to disguise the meanness of Mr Biggs's crime. He is no Robin Hood. Since his escape, he has managed to live a comfortable, though not luxurious, existence, profiting from his notoriety,

He has had his fair share of good fortune, and we should not feel too sorry for him if it has come to an end, though the possibility that he will find some way of escaping British justice yet again should not be discounted.

There is, however, one troubling aspect of the saga which should be considered seriously. The circumstances leading up to his present predicament are not entirely clear, and it is possible that a caper which started off as a publicity stunt turned to Mr Biggs's disadvantage when his captors decided to take him to Barbados. On the assumption, however, that the abduction was genuine, with no element of collusion by Mr Biggs, his presence in Barbados was the result of an illegal act of international banditry. Should we, for that reason, decline to ask for his extradition ?

If that is to be answered affirmatively, it should not be because of some misplaced sense of sportsmanship or fair play. It is no principle of international law, or of the relations between states, that we should decline to take advantage of Mr Biggs's fortuitous presence in a country from which he can be extradited. Would we, however, be condoning and encouraging the kind of criminal act that brought Mr Biggs to Barbados? The abduction of Mr Biggs itself may not have been a very serious instance of international outlawry. It is argued, however, that the principle could extend to the encouragement of grave acts of terrorism and kidnapping.

But who, precisely, would be encouraged, and to do what ? The motives of Mr Biggs's abductors are far from clear, but it is certain that they did not do it for a financial reward, or any other benefit, from the British authorities. Whatever their reasons, their activities and Britain's reaction to them, are unlikely to encourage other such adventurers. For potential kidnappers with political motives, the affair provides no lessons whatever. Nor can it be of any relevance to international terrorists.

The kidnapping was a murky and distasteful episode. The perpetrators undoubtedly deserve punishment. But it should not be blown up into an event raising important questions of principle. The British Government must pursue its claim to have him returned to a British jail. How long he should be required to remain there is another matter.

David Wood

The sources of political information

My colleague Fred Emery touched pertinently in his Saturday column on the secrecy that enwraps much political newsgathering in Westminster and at Whitehall and suggested that the public, as well as reporters, would be better served by an open system. His main complaint was aimed at the Lobby rule (in practice it extends to all reporting, not only in Britain) of non-attributability. That is to say giving political information on the understanding that the source shall not be stated, according to the venerable principle of no names, no pack drill.

In recent years some members of the Westminster Lobby have been increasingly restive under the working of the rule, largely because ministers have namelessly passed confidences at Lobby meetings to political reporters and then immediately arranged to say the same thing in person on the next television bulletin. Few ministers or shadow ministers can resist either an audience of millions or the opportunity to speak directly for themselves rather than risk the distortion, real or imagined, of a newspaper report over which they have no control.

Sir Francis Boyd of *The Guardian* years ago mounted the first campaign within the Lobby to end the non-attributable rule and what he saw as the growing supremacy of broadcasting.

Significantly, one or two recent prime ministers have also wanted on occasion to escape from the rule. Both Sir Harold Wilson and Mr Heath, or their advisors, at various times considered resort to Lancaster House press conferences where, before batteries of cameras and microphones, they could make statements and bat against the bowling of questioners from Fleet Street (as they do during election campaigns). Not only the Lobby but other specialist reporters were to have been present.

The motive here, of course, may partly have been to protect prime ministers from the "misrepresentations" of reporting at second hand in somebody else's words. At the time most members of the Westminster Lobby did not take kindly to the proposed propaganda by or public accountability of prime ministers: and there was probably some reason to detect in it the risk of circumventing Parliament and moving towards corporatism.

Historically the origin of the Westminster Lobby practice of non-attributability, without an express agreement to use names, is easily understood. Not long before the turn of the century the first Lobby men were warily allowed into the Members' lobby immediately outside the Chamber. There were very few of them. They had to obey rules for subfusc dress (top hats compulsory); for no notetaking, no unseemly rapid movement, no sitting down except on two particular small benches.

Above all, they were required to have eyes to see and ears to hear only what was intended for them. They were guests on probation in a gentlemen's club that was not teetotal.

The first generation of Lobbymen reckoned themselves chosen people, and were as keen to guard their rules as MPs were to enforce them. By their biddability as well as their reporting skills, they became the acceptable face of Fleet Street at Westminster. Today the Lobby is not platoon but company strength, and Lobby meetings are mass rallies, with all provincial and evening papers, as well as television, radio and weekly journals, abundantly represented. Because of its size, he would be a rash minister or Opposition front bencher who entrusted confidences involving his political future to it, and on the whole they do not. Nor do Whitehall spokesmen.

Yet we are not speaking only of the Lobby rules, some self-imposed and others imposed from outside. Nor are we speaking only of the Official Secrets Acts and their awesome sway. We also have to take account—ministers and their spokesmen do—of the rules that Parliament is always jealously entitled to be told first. If there is a question on the order paper, for instance, strictly a minister and his entourage are inhibited by the rule from even hinting at the answer, although they often do. Nevertheless, *Times* men at Westminster more than once have had breaches of parliamentary privilege moved against them because they had anticipated a Commons answer; and to Lobbymen threats of privilege are nearly as bad as threats of divorce.

Similarly, *The Times* once printed an announcement to be made in the Commons by a minister on the day following a decision by the Cabinet committee. We compounded the offence by adding a map. The minister flatly refused to make his statement for three further weeks, partly out of pique, partly because he was a stickler for Commons procedure and ministerial good manners. The paper's informant rang in code asking that I should never breathe his name.

It is fairly easy to make the House of Commons and the Lobby look silly or pompous by illustrating some consequences of their rules and practices. Yet in the end, as usual, there is a commonsense balance to be struck. The right of Parliament to be told first, for example, has the virtue that it means the ministerial executive may be immediately confronted by a challenge from the Opposition front bench and backbenchers. Corporatist statements on television, with questions by broadcasters who never quite know whether they are in the business of entertainment or political information, would be no satisfactory substitute, although nothing need prevent the television show in due course.

Equally, there must still be less room for the survival of the "no names, no packdrill" reporting rule, even though much more could be brought into the open than now. Faceless and nameless "Deep Throats" still have their uses in newsgathering if reporters keep on guard against having the news managed for them.

Ironically, some political informants anxiously ask to be named in the story as a device to clear themselves of suspicion and join the ranks of those outrageously wronged. "Open" politics are not necessarily more above board or informative.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Civil Service aims for new pact

From the Secretary General of the Council of Civil Service Unions

Sir, Lord Houghton (March 24) asks if the leaders of the Civil Service unions will explore his suggestion that the House of Commons Select Committee on the Treasury and Civil Service should consider the current Civil Service pay dispute.

There are two major considerations to bear in mind. The select committee cannot speak for the Government and any investigation is bound to take a considerable time. The Council of Civil Service Unions has always been, and remains, anxious to negotiate on the 1981 review and to go to arbitration if there is disagreement. We are also anxious to reach agreement on a new and orderly system for the future, which would be fair to the community and to the service and which would avoid a repetition of this dispute.

We will also respond positively to any attempt to bring the two sides together, but we do not see how the select committee could fulfil such a role, or play a part in producing the quick solution which every sensible person wants to achieve. Unhappily, the Government's inactivity indicates neither concern nor urgency.

Yours faithfully,
W. L. KENDALL, Secretary General,
Council of Civil Service Unions,
19 Rochester Row, SW1.
March 27.

From Mr W. Wright

Sir, Your columns have been used to accuse us of disloyalty—one eminent correspondent even suggested that treachery was afoot. Those whom we represent find these allegations wholly offensive. They have given and will continue to give loyal service to the Ministry of Defence. But not at any price.

Since the Government assumed office, the civilian staff of the Navy has been reduced by some 14,000. Hundreds of our members are being made redundant within the next four weeks in order to meet the "cash limit" imposed by the Government. As a result of the Prime Minister's statement on the size of the Civil Service in 1984 a further 30,000 posts must be eliminated. These are jobs, many of which represent career prospects that will never be replaced.

At the same time we have seen the pay of the Services being increased well in excess of the pay of comparable civilians in the ministry. The Government, despite representations to the Secretary of State for Defence and his predecessors, has consistently refused to recognize that defence is essentially an amalgam of service and civilian effort. The "teeth" and the "tail" are equally necessary to the "animal".

Accustomed as we are to being kicked in the "tail" we react when we are kicked in the "teeth" and that is why loyal civilians in the ministry find themselves having to take industrial action. Measured against proven scandals in the world of intelligence the allegations of disloyalty and treachery pale into insignificance.

Yours faithfully,
W. WRIGHT, Trade Union Side Chairman,
Ministry of Defence Council of Civil Service Unions,
Old War Office Building,
Whitehall, SW1.
March 25.

Call for progress on Bill of Rights

From Mr Geoffrey Rippon, QC, MP for Hexham (Conservative)

Sir, The time has come for Parliament to reassert its traditional function as the protector of the rights of individuals against the arbitrary acts of the Executive. Increasingly, we have exchanged the protection of the rule of law—the guarantee of individual rights under the law by independent courts—for a complex system of administrative law that is changed from day to day, and even retrospectively, by a Parliament that has become the passive tool of government.

We may increasingly envy the protection given to individual rights by the United States Supreme Court which can override unconstitutional executive action. This is why I welcomed the undertaking in the Conservative Party election manifesto that a Conservative Government would wish to discuss a possible Bill of Rights with all parties. No doubt the drafting of any form of written constitution, particularly one which seeks to entrench its provisions, raises formidable problems. There is, however, one step that can and should be taken immediately to restrain the abuse of power. Twice the Bill of Rights Bill, which is intended to render the provisions of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights enforceable in the courts of the United Kingdom, has been promoted in the House of Lords by the Liberal peer, Lord Wade, and carried through all its stages with support from members of all parties.

The Government should respond to the early-day motion signed by over 150 MPs and provide time at an early date for a second reading of this Bill in the House of Commons. All debates on it should take place with the same free vote that the Government advocated in the House of Lords. Such a Bill was recommended by a powerful committee of the Society of Conservative Lawyers in 1976 and approved by a majority in the report from the select committee of the House of Lords, to which it was referred.

On September 3, 1953, Sir Winston Churchill's last administration committed the United Kingdom Government under international law as a high contracting party to the European Convention of Human Rights. We have a treaty obligation to observe the terms of the convention, but that does not make the articles part of our law. Thus our judges cannot look at the convention directly when they have a human rights problem to resolve. In consequence, our citizens are increasingly being forced to seek remedies for what they regard as infringements of their rights by direct representation to the European Court in Strasbourg.

That court, as Lord Scarman has pointed out, is, in present circumstances, unfortunately deprived of "the wisdom and experience of our judges and the traditions of English law". For my part, I would certainly have preferred the British Rail closed shop cases and the claims of the expropriated aircraft and shipbuilding companies to have been heard by our own courts.

The Government can hardly ignore the fact that the Lord Chancellor, Lord Hailsham, has long been an advocate of this measure which he has argued would prevent encroachment by Parliament upon individual liberties. These encroachments, as he has observed, are not by any means so infrequent as might be supposed. In the armoury of weapons against what Lord Hailsham has eloquently described as "elective dictatorship" a Bill of Rights embodying the European Convention would indeed have a valuable, even if subordinate, part to play.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY RIPPON,
House of Commons.
March 24.

Victim of circumstance

From the Principal of Newnham College, Cambridge.

Sir, Mr Chapman Pincher alleges in his book, *Their Trade is Treachery*, that my late brother-in-law, Bernard Floud, along with numerous other Labour members of Parliament (he refers incredibly to "more than 60 Labour MPs and a score or so of Labour peers") was suspected by the security authorities of being at best a secret member of the Communist Party and at worst "in touch with Soviet intelligence". A tendentious reference to his suicide in 1967, coupled with the statement that as a prospective junior minister he was being questioned by MI5 about his past political beliefs and activities, invites the improbable conclusion that he must indeed been guilty of treachery.

I think it should be made clear for the sake of his reputation and the feelings of his children and other close relatives like myself that this cruel gloss on his tragic death is entirely gratuitous. The trauma of bereavement is explanation enough.

Bernard Floud's wife, Ailsa, died in January, 1967, after many years of intermittent ill-health and the violent grief and the suicidal despair of this normally robust man shocked and frightened us all. In March he agreed to undergo psychiatric treatment but made only slow and fitful progress. In June he suffered a relapse and talked again desparingly of killing himself. A holiday abroad in August gave him strength to fulfil a number of engagements in his constituency during September when the House was in recess and on the urging of his doctor he decided to end his sick leave. He put in a first day's work at his Granada office on October 9 at the end of which he declared himself unable to go on. He took his life in the early hours of October 10.

Yours faithfully,
JEAN FLOUD,
The Principal's Lodge,
Newnham Walk, Cambridge.
March 27.

From Mr T. A. Reynolds

Sir, In the long term, perhaps the most disturbing fact to come out of the current speculation about MI5 is that the habit of working late in the evening can be seriously cited as evidence of treason.

Yours faithfully,
THOMAS A. REYNOLDS,
5 Queensdale Walk, W11.

Survival in nuclear war

From Professor W. F. Nash and others

Sir, Over the past few months there has appeared a range of statements in the media on the possible effects of a nuclear war on the population of this country leading to conclusions that home defence will be ineffectual and even undesirable. While in no way wishing to support the concept that nuclear war is acceptable, and bearing in mind that the effects of such an attack could be devastating, we do feel that the complete sense of hopelessness which is engendered by these statements should not be allowed to go unchallenged.

Some of these statements even imply that those involved in considering how to protect people in the event of such an attack are themselves helping to increase the probability of a nuclear war and to condition the public to accept it; this implication we reject entirely. It is our firm view that, as long as nuclear weapons exist in the form they do today, it is a common obligation to make such plans as are feasible to mitigate the effects of such a calamity should it occur.

It is by no means certain that the United Kingdom would be subject to a saturation attack: many possibilities arise including limited attacks on specific targets, accidental attacks and the possibility of fallout from continental weapons with no direct attack on this country. In every case there would be survivors in need of help and lives could be saved by having made appropriate home defence preparations.

In a nuclear attack there are two distinct aspects to consider. Firstly, at the time of the explosion, damage and casualties are caused by heat and blast and further harm to living things is caused by radiation. The heat and blast effects are of much greater magnitude than those produced by conventional high-explosive weapons, but the temperatures and pressure levels which result from a nuclear explosion are well understood physical phenomena and their effects on humans, animals, plants and structures can be predicted with some degree of confidence.

The new phenomenon produced by a nuclear weapon is that of radiation, especially from the fallout of radioactive products produced at the time of explosion. The effects of radiation at the anticipated levels of intensity are twofold: deaths would occur over periods of days or weeks from heavy irradiation and there would be longer term risks of cancer among the survivors which would be manifest in an increased cancer incidence after long periods of up to perhaps 20 years. There is, however, a sufficient body of radiobiological knowledge available on which to assess the magnitude of these effects and on which to base realistic measures of radiation protection.

The detailed effects of nuclear weapons are described in the HMSO publication, *Nuclear Weapons*, or the more detailed United States publication, *The Effects of Nuclear Weapons*, both of which are readily available to members of the public. We regard the figures given there as good estimates to be contradicted only on the basis of convincing new evidence.

Fallout can occur at great distances from the point of explosion, but it is here that protective measures can be particularly effective. In fact, even towards the edges of the target zone many lives can be saved by use of quite modest shelters, although towards the target centre large numbers of casualties would be inevitable. It is in these areas of the country away from target zones which would be undamaged but nevertheless affected by fallout that a large percentage of the population unaffected by the primary effects of the weapon would be saved by quite simple measures and precautions.

It is clear that any government has an obligation to take steps to help such survivors and all governments since the end of World War Two have adopted this policy. This means not only advising on the provision of the physical means of protecting the survivors but also ensuring that an administrative structure exists so that the number of survivors can be made as large as possible. Survivors would not be able to begin the tasks of rejuvenation immediately because of radioactive contamination, but since radioactivity decays with time the return to a more normal way of life can be ensured provided the correct planning is carried out.

It is for these reasons that those of us who act and have acted in a voluntary capacity as advisers on home defence feel that our effort is worth while. We have found it most encouraging that among us there are young scientists who continue to come forward to help in a task that is as manifestly humanitarian as it is necessary in the dangerous world in which we live.

We remain, yours faithfully,
W. F. NASH,
FRANK LLEWELYN-JONES,
W. F. R. POVER,
JOHN M. REID,
DENNIS F. SHAW,
F. W. SPIERS,
ALAN A. WILSON,
A. W. WOLFENDALE,
6 Spean Drive,
Aspley Hall,
Nottingham.

Way ahead in Ulster

From Mr John D. Taylor, MEP for Northern Ireland (Ulster Unionist)

Sir, Mr Julian Amery, MP, confirms in his letter (March 20) that the one common political objective of all four main political parties in Northern Ireland is a devolved government. Regrettably he then repeats a fallacy which has destroyed every previous government's initiative. He assumes that a prerequisite is that not only should all parties be agreed upon the principle, but they should also agree the detailed structure.

During the Scottish devolution debate no one requested the Conservatives, socialists, Liberals and Scottish Nationalists to agree the details of Scottish devolution before the Government presented the devolution Bill to Parliament. If interparty agreement was not possible in Scotland then it is even more impossible in Ulster and should not be seriously suggested.

I agree with Julian Amery that Ulster should have fair representation in Parliament and democracy in local government services. There is no excuse for this Government's delay in these two matters, but let it be remembered that neither of these is an alternative to devolution, which remains the prime objective of the Ulster Unionist party.

The way ahead for Ulster is for the Government, having consulted with the Ulster political parties, to present its proposal for Ulster devolution to Parliament in the knowledge that inter-party support in Ulster for the details will not be forthcoming and should never be expected.

Yours etc.
JOHN D. TAYLOR.
Ulster Unionist Party,
3 Glengall Street,
Belfast 12.

Church unity

From the Reverend William J. Brown

Sir, Many anti-Covenant individuals in all the pro-Covenant churches share Canon George Austin's clearly stated views (March 21), not least that marriage presents a model for the unity that God wills. Even in a shared building the male and the female remain distinguishable to their dying day; and their enriching unity, in the moments when they achieve it, requires the growing recognition of fundamental differences and freedoms. By insisting on bishops and a common ordinal, the best the Covenant can offer is an Anglican body gradually putting on weight it may well feel unhappy about, while traditions that God entrusted to the free churches will have been betrayed.

It seems a messy, protracted, backhanded way of accepting in the end the straightforward unification envisaged by the Lambeth statement after the First World War, and then the Archbishop's sermon after the Second World War. Imagine God really wanting Blake's lamb to achieve organic union with Blake's tyger ! "Visible" unity would have to see them loving each other the way they are: divided, but with more in common in the future than has yet been realized.

Yours faithfuly,
WILLIAM BROWN,
31 Littleheath,
Charlton, SE7.
March 21.

Equality without fraternity

From Sir Ronald Bell, QC, MP for Beaconsfield (Conservative)

Sir, The letter from Mrs Joanna Bogle and others (March 25) expressed the views of normal women about the Equal Opportunities Commission. The views of normal men would, I believe, be identical. Being one who has opposed "unisex" legislation at every opportunity, I have taken particular note of the attitudes to the EOC expressed at meetings and in letters. They have been uniformly hostile.

During the second reading debate on the Sex Discrimination Bill I said that we were making fools of ourselves. We were: most members thought so: and yet we did it. Why? Because members thought that this was progress, the irresistible trend of the times and also that opposition to it would be misunderstood—the classic excuse for not doing as one thinks! As one influential lady (who was opposed to the Bill) said to me . . . "but we can't vote against it, can we ?".

A Labour member said to me in a place where there was no danger of feminine eavesdroppers: "Of course, you are absolutely right—but I have a lot of women in my constituency!". I doubt whether the proportion of the sexes was abnormal in his constituency, and he certainly misconstrued the general opinion of women. But that is how we came to have this unwanted Act, and this foolish and expensive commission whose absurdities have been universally mocked from its inception, but still continue.

There is no hope of a government Bill to relieve us of this folly, nor of a private member's Bill succeeding. And there is almost certainly some Common Market rule supporting it. We live in the age of the pressure group. Mrs Bogle and her friends are, therefore, to be warmly congratulated on forming their own pressure group. It is our only hope of deliverance from subsidized idiocy.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
RONALD M. BELL,
House of Commons.
March 26.

From Lady Trumpington

Sir, Mrs Joanna Bogle (March 25) places great emphasis on those aspects of the Equal Opportunities Commission's work which involve promoting equality of opportunity for women. Equality also means equality for men, which is more than giving babies bottles.

As United Kingdom delegate to the United Nations' Status of Women Commission I have found the prestige of the EOC a trump card to play at women's meetings abroad. Women in other countries envy our Equal Opportunities Commission and in many cases are establishing similar bodies themselves.

Yours faithfully,
TRUMPINGTON,
House of Lords.
March 26.

From Miss Irma Kurtz

Sir, Nature created endearing differences between the sexes but mankind made inequities. Surely it is the duty of a democracy to correct inequities and to offer equal opportunities to every free citizen, and surely *this* is the aim of EOC: to institute social justice and not Mrs Bogle's "cult of unisex", a phrase I cannot for the life of me trace or understand.

Yours sincerely,
IRMA KURTZ,
26 Ellingham Road, W12.

Experience of judges

From Sir Denis Dobson, QC

Sir, In your leading article yesterday (March 23) on what you describe as an unjustified judicial monopoly you state that "barristers are often appointed to the [High Court] bench with little advocacy experience". From my own experience over 30 years in the Lord Chancellor's Department and as Permanent Secretary from 1968 to 1977 I can assure you that this is quite untrue.

I am not aware of anyone having been appointed to the bench during this period, to go back no further, who had not had considerable experience of advocacy in the High Court, quite apart from his other qualifications for appointment, and I am satisfied that there has been no change in this respect since my retirement.

It would not be appropriate for me to comment on the many other misleading arguments in your leading article.

Yours faithfully,
DENIS DOBSON,
50 Egerton Crescent, SW3.

Worse than the disease

From Professor Innis Macbeath

Sir, Lord Bowden (March 24) has surely chosen the wrong root for a word to describe the damage done by public policy. The trouble arises from ignorance or optimism about the limitations of vain authority in an imperfectly known world.

For more than four centuries we have had the word "utopian". Anyone who cares to read what St Thomas More actually wrote about syphograunts, the managers and administrators of Utopia, should then look for parallels in, say, textbooks of planning, management and economics.

If we must have neologisms, why not "utopogenic syndrome" for the textbook and "St Thomas's dance" for ordinary conversation ?

True, Lord Bowden may feel he has Milton on his side. Milton had Satan quoting "public interest just, honour and empire with revenge enlarged", and continued: "Thus spake the fiend, and with necessity, the tyrant's plea, excus'd his devilish deeds."

Yet although this may appear to support Lord Bowden's choice of "tyrannogenic", it is unfair to the modern syphograunt, who is more likely to be dogmatically well-intentioned and blind to the consequent evils. Satan knew.

Yours faithfully,
INNIS MACBEATH,
11 Broadhurst,
Ashtead, Surrey,
March 24.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 29: Mr Alan Cowdrey had the honour of being received by The Queen at Windsor Castle this morning when Her Majesty decorated him with the Royal Victorian Medal (Silver).

The Prince of Wales left Heathrow Airport, London, this afternoon to visit New Zealand, Australia, Venezuela and the United States of America.

The Hon Edward Adeane, Mr Francis Cornish and Mr Warwick Hutchings are in attendance.

Birthdays today

Sir Robert Armstrong, 55; Professor Sir Ernst Gombrich, 72; Sir Andrew McCance, 92; Sir Derek Rayner, 55; Sir Peter Scarlett, 76.

Evangelical regrouping marks a new critical approach

By Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Correspondent

Six evangelical societies, of which the Church Society and the Evangelical Alliance are the most prominent, have moved together into new premises near the Oval in south London, a move they celebrated with a joint service last Wednesday in the local parish church.

It brings under one roof for the first time a number of bodies which to varying extents represent the puritan, evangelical and biblical ingredient in contemporary Christianity, sometimes called "fundamentalist" by those out of sympathy with it.

Those within that world prefer "conservative evangelical" or just "evangelical" as a public label, though in their own company call themselves just "Christian". This is a slightly exclusive use, as if there was only one kind of real Christian and they were it. And evangelicals are not very interested in churches, nor in ecumenism, nor in theology, as if those who were interested in such things had missed the point of being a Christian.

It is no mere coincidence of names that their primary interest is evangelism: the spreading to others of their own deeply committed—a common evangelical phrase—brand of Christianity. Four of the six societies sharing the new offices are engaged in overseas missionary activity, and the other two would regard themselves as engaged in "home-mission".

Given a choice between the pursuit of social justice, or personal holiness, or the recruitment of others, evangelicals would undoubtedly choose the third, for what a man believes is, for them, the key to his salvation.

The Bible-believing Christian, a man saved by faith alone, can be confident of his justification in the sight of God: English evangelicals do not dwell too much on Calvinist ideas of predestined damnation for some.

It is a product of that simple emphasis that evangelicals seem to seek their own company, almost to the point of constructing a slightly unreal world of "us" and "them", including among "them" the great majority of those who also think themselves Christian.

In the past they have been bitter opponents of the Roman Catholic Church and of "Roman" doctrines in other churches, and there are still echoes of that notion of the papacy as anti-Christ even among the present moderate and kindly generation of leaders.

The evangelical sub-culture disregards denominational boundaries in much the way colonial map-drawing in Africa is said to cut across tribal boundaries. There are evangelicals in all the mainstream non-Catholic churches, though by no means all of them feel a particular loyalty to the organized groups and societies of this world.

In the Church of England evangelicalism can be no more than a slight shading of attitude, a matter of ecclesiastical taste rather than of commitment. And there has, in the past, been a tendency for some to drift towards the centre, to become less "conservative" and more "liberal". (These terms do not correspond to political labels, having a long-standing ecclesiastical usage of their own.

The most distinctive public manifestation of the evangelical style is a strong sense of confidence and rightness, and an impatience with mystery and doubt. Though in the past some have somehow managed to be both, to be "biblical" is usually the opposite end of the religious spectrum from being "mystical". Evangelicals neither speculate nor meditate, as a rule: they pronounce, and praise the Lord.

Numerically they are not an overwhelming force in any church, nor is their influence very often decisive. They are, undoubtedly, enjoying a period of greater strength, though there is reason for thinking this is self-limiting.

The significance of the move to one building is that it could enhance the inwardness of organized evangelical life, excluding the productive stimulus of non-evangelical ideas. But the risk was far greater 20 years ago: there have been signs of a struggle to outgrow some of the more obviously blinkered thinking, in more recent years. While that has produced movement, it has also produced great tension.

The development of a critical, intellectual approach, with a willingness to examine problems before turning up a text, has drawn evangelicals towards the centre ground and away from the over-simplification represented by the word "fundamentalism", a tendency opposed by evangelical purists.

What is still conspicuously lacking is any serious "outreach", a familiar evangelical word, towards the great bulk of those of the Christian persuasion who are not of this family. Evangelical literature often seems to be speaking of a world in which there are only evangelicals in an unbelieving world lost in its sins.

Non-evangelical Christians, the great majority, cannot be fitted into a black-and-white world, and so tend to be ignored. That has just begun to change, perhaps because the interdenominational National Initiative in Evangelism has recently thrown people together who would never normally meet. The impact has been dramatic enough to divide the ranks of the Evangelical Alliance into pro and anti NIE factions.

OBITUARY

MR BERNARD HOLLOWOOD

Former editor of 'Punch'

Bernard Hollowood, editor of *Punch* from 1957 to 1968, economics journalist and pocket cartoonist, died on March 28 at the age of 70.

A. Bernard Hollowood was born in Burslem on June 3, 1910, the son of Albert and Sarah Elizabeth Hollowood. Educated at Hanley High School; St Paul's College, Cheltenham; and the London School of Economics, Hollowood trained as a teacher and for most of the 1930s taught at Loughborough College. He did research in Economic Geography, with a local focus. He was very much a Potteries man and very proud of his honorary MA from Keele University.

After a great variety of industrial and economic journalism, he joined the staff of *The Economist*, became research officer of the Council of Industrial Design and edited *Pottery and Glass*. In 1942 he began to write and draw for *Punch*, being appointed to the Punch Table in 1945. He was prolific with topical ideas: but his astonishing output tended to mask the imaginative quality of his best work. He was the first to deride the amateurishness of his draughtsmanship.

Hollowood succeeded Malcolm Muggeridge as editor of *Punch* and set a style of editorship that differed markedly from that of his iconoclastic predecessor. As editor he increased circulation at a time of general contraction. His versatility and drive, if not without their terrors for his staff, kept the office lively. He believed that a humorous paper had a duty to comment seriously on public affairs; he introduced into the magazine serious articles and leaders on political and financial affairs, as well as on other matters of general public concern.

He was a well-read and well-rounded man of wide interests who could and did write on a variety of subjects both in *Punch* and elsewhere. He was a dedicated editor meticulous about such matters as punctuation, but to suggest that he was a man whose character and outlook lacked a leavening of humour would of course be quite untrue as those who enjoyed the drawings and cartoons he contributed over the years not only to *Punch* but also to other publications will bear witness. He will be particularly remembered by readers of *The Times* for the pocket cartoon he drew regularly for the Business Diary, which gave proof of both his informed interest in current affairs and his witty graphic line.

Bernard Hollowood was tall, heavily built man with distinguished profile. He was warm, friendly, light hearted and kind. His many interests included cricket. He had played for Staffordshire and loved village cricket. His home life meant a great deal to him.

He married in 1938, Marjorie Duncan, daughter of Dr W. T. Lawrie. She survives him with two daughters and a son.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr C. N. Macready and Miss L. McAdam
The engagement is announced between Charles Nevil, son of Sir Nevil and Lady Macready, of Pirbright, Surrey, and Lorraine, daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian McAdam, of Connah's Quay, Deeside, Clwyd.

Mr P. M. Blest and Miss J. P. Cook
The engagement is announced between Peter Melville, elder son of Mr and Mrs J. F. M. Blest, of Wateringbury, Kent, and Janet Priscilla, only daughter of Mr and Mrs T. A. Cook, of Ifold, Sussex.

Mr G. Giles and Miss T. Bruce-Lockhart
The engagement is announced between Gordon, younger son of Mr and Mrs A. W. Giles, of Uckfield, Sussex, and Tanya, only daughter of the late Wing Commander Guy Bruce-Lockhart, DSO, DFC, and Mrs John Morland, of Dorking, Surrey.

Mr A. Lieven and Mrs J. M. E. Watson
The marriage has been arranged and will take place in July, between Alexander Lieven, of 19 Ossington Street, W2, and Joanna Watson (née Rendle) of 39 Adair House, Oakley Street, SW3.

Mr R. L. Liley and Miss M. L. Weeks
The engagement is announced between Richard Laurence, younger son of Mr and Mrs D. H. Liley, of Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, and Margaret Layla, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. J. Weeks, of Leverstock Green, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire.

Dr R. J. MacInnes and Miss B. M. Stocking
The engagement is announced between John, son of Dr and Mrs R. I. MacInnes, of Maidenhead, Berkshire, and Barbara, daughter of Mr and Mrs P. Stocking, of Rugby, Warwickshire.

Mr C. J. Ordish and Miss P. M. New
The engagement is announced between Christopher, elder son of the late Dr Brian Ordish and of Mrs E. Blaxland, of Dover, Kent, and Patricia, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs S. W. New, of Sanderstead, Surrey.

Marriages

Mr J. N. Browne and Miss A. E. Mitchell
The marriage took place on Saturday at Camden Register Office between Mr Nicholas Browne, only son of the late Mr J. C. Browne and Mrs Browne, of Roehampton, SW15, and Miss Angelica Mitchell, only daughter of the late Sir George Mitchell, QC, and of Lady Mitchell, of Roehampton.

A reception was held at Gray's Inn Hall and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr J. V. Ellwood and Miss B. M. Trotter
The marriage took place in Friday, March 27, between Mr John Ellwood, son of the late Captain Victor Ellwood and Mrs Ellwood, and Miss Bridget Trotter, only daughter of the late Lieutenant-Colonel George Trotter and Lady Maryoth Hay.

Mr P. D. Harris and Miss A. E. Anwyl-Davies
The marriage took place on Saturday, March 28, at St Mary the Boltons between Mr Peter Harris, son of the late Kenneth Harris and of Mrs Harris, and Miss Anne Elizabeth Anwyl-Davies, daughter of the late Dr Thomas Anwyl-Davies and of Mrs Anwyl-Davies.

The bride was given in marriage by Judge Marcus Anwyl-Davies and Mr Alastair Barington was best man.

Mr A. Simmonds and Miss S. Butler
The marriage took place in London on March 27, between Mr Anthony Simmonds, of 71 Cromwell Avenue, Highgate, and Miss Setitia Butler, of White Notley Hall, near Witham, Essex.

Latest wills

Latest estates include (net, before tax paid):

Cousins, Mr Cyril Alfred, of Cwmbran, Gwent £248,041
Cussins, Mr Eric, of York £181,667
Edwards, Mrs Yootha Joyce, of Westminster, Yootha Joyce, the actress £99,418
Hall, Mr Harry, of Dudley £432,155
O'Neill, Mr Thomas Malcomson, of Canterbury £223,800
Phillips, Mr Philip Glyn, of Abergavenny £542,017
Sword, Mr Henry Everitt, of Ravensden, Bedfordshire £482,010
Watson, Miss Constance Amelia, of Sidmouth £470,260
Wood, Mr John Stanley, of Southport £238,689
Wuertz-Field, Mrs Elizabeth Grace, of Eastcote £415,691

Today's engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, as senior fellow, attends Fellowship of Engineering new fellows dinner, Apothecaries Hall, Blackfriars Lane, 7.30.
Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother attends Royal Film Performance, Odeon Theatre, Leicester Square, 8.
The Duchess of Gloucester attends annual luncheon of Women's Cancer Control Campaign, Grosvenor House Hotel, 12.15.
The Duke of Kent, as Colonel-in-Chief, visits 1st Battalion, Devonshire and Dorset Regiment, Thetford, Norfolk, 11.
Talks: On music to be played by English Chamber Orchestra, by Roger North, Waterloo Room, Royal Festival Hall, 5.55; Lent lectures, 4: "The setting and performance of liturgy", by the Rev Patrick Tuft, Sion College, Victoria Embankment, 3; Turner's early landscapes", by Monica Seymour, Tate Gallery, 1; "Writing on clay", by Dominique Collon, British Museum, 11.30; "Ikons" "Romantic versus Classic Art, No 7, Gericault", National Gallery, 1.
Exhibitions: Paintings of the Dordogne, by Pamela Blake, Hamiltons Gallery, 13 Carlos Place, Grosvenor Square, 9.30 to 5.30.
Works by Edward Toledano, Talent Store, 11 Eccleston Street, Westminster, 9.30 to 5.30; "Czech Chic" prints and drawings, by Julia Griffiths, 5 Dryden Street, Covent Garden, 10 to 6.
Lunchtime music: Tessa Uys, piano, St Lawrence Jewry, 1; Jonathan Rennert, organ, St Michael's, Cornhill, 1; John Scott, organ, Southwark Cathedral, 1.10.
Chairman of the GLC is host at reception for delegates to conference on human values, County Hall, 6: attends concert, Festival Hall, 8

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:
Professor Kenneth Rawnsley, of the Welsh National School of Medicine, to be president of the Royal College of Psychiatrists.
Mr Richard Creasey, head of documentaries for ATV, to be Controller of Features and Channel Four Offers, and Mr Brian Lewis, film production executive, to be Controller of Documentary Programmes, based in Birmingham.
Mr J. Clark, Mr J. W. Hardy and Mr M. B. Squires to join the Council of the Institute of Taxation.

George I mirrors sold in New York for £60,869

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

Prices for fine English furniture went through the roof at a Christie's auction in New York on Saturday. Almost all the buyers were American.

The highest price came as a total surprise to the auctioneers. A pair of finely carved, George I giltwood mirrors, with eagles' heads and shell motifs, sold for $104,000, or £60,869, to an unnamed New Yorker. Christie's had estimated their value at about $20,000 to $28,000.

There have been some remarkable prices recently for the best English giltwood mirrors but they all had a history attached; the designer and the house for which they were made were known. It is likely that in this case the purchaser and the underbidder may have unearthed that information although it had escaped the auction cataloguer. That would help to explain the very high price.

A George I, giltwood pier mirror, in the manner of John Belchier, provided another, although more modest, surprise. It sold for $28,000 (estimate $8,000 to $12,000), or £12,173, also to an unnamed New Yorker. A label on the back bears the pencil inscription, "Morning room, Pall Mall", an address that is perhaps traceable.

The design of the 80in mirror is close to one supplied by John Relcher for the state bedroom at Erthig, in North Wales, in 1726.

The importance attached to the history of furniture was underlined by other high prices in the sale. An elaborate George III cast and gilt gesso console table, made for the Arlington Street home of Sir Laurence Dundas, sold for $70,000 (estimate $30,000 to $40,000) or £30,434, and was bought by a New York private collector. It was designed by Robert Adam and made by William France and John Bradburn. It had cost Sir Laurence 15 guineas.

A similar late eighteenth-century table, made to an Adam design for the same house, was sold by Christie's in London in 1978 for £12,000.

Another well documented lot was a pair of George III giltwood settees designed by Robert Adam for the home of Sir Abraham Hume at 17 Hill Street, London. The design is owned by the Soane Museum in London. The settees were sold for $68,000 (estimate $15,000 to $25,000), or £29,565, again to a private collector in New York.

Not all the prices ran so far beyond expectations. Fine pieces without remarkable histories sold much in line with expectation. A Queen Anne, walnut, double-dome, bureau bookcase, a type of piece that has long been popular in America and Europe, made $15,000 (estimate $10,000 to $15,000), or £6,521.

The sale underlined some surprising recent trends in the English furniture market. Those are unusually high prices for mirrors and pedestal dining tables (a three-pedestal mahogany dining table made $26,000, against an estimate of $3,500 to $5,000), the large premium collectors will pay for documented history, and the widening gap between price levels for ordinary eighteenth-century furniture and the best examples. At the bottom end of the market, prices have fallen. The sale totalled £475,778, with 8 per cent unsold.

Christie's also held a sale of American posters, prints and drawings in two sessions on Friday and Saturday. They were as popular as ever, with a total of £292,923 and 4 per cent unsold.

Dinner

Lady Mayoress of Westminster
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Westminster gave a dinner at City Hall on Saturday. Among those present were:
The Agent-General for New South Wales and Mrs Renshaw, the Chairman of the GLC and Mrs Brook-Partridge, Wing Commander and Mrs W. Kearney, Mr and Mrs Sidney Corob, Mr and Mrs Louis Heyman, Mr and Mrs Alan Smith and Miss C. Halliday.

Service dinners

The Royal Hampshire Regiment
The annual dinner of The Royal Hampshire Regiment Territorial Officers' Dinner Club was held at regimental headquarters, Serle's House, Winchester, on Saturday. Brigadier C. G. T. Viner presided.

3rd Divisional Signals
A reunion dinner of the 3rd Divisional Signals Reunion Club was held at the Victory Services Club on Saturday. Major-General A. C. Birtwistle, Signal Officer in Chief, was the guest of honour. Brigadier C. G. Moore presided. Lieutenant-Colonel R. Maynard, Commander, 3rd Armoured Divisional Signals, was among those present.

224 Field Ambulance, RAMC
224 Field Ambulance (NS), RAMC, held a dinner at Cobridge Barracks on Saturday. Lieutenant-Colonel K. B. S. Sethi, commanding officer, presided and Colonel Ken Cowan was the principal guest.

RAF 38 Group Association
RAF 38 Group Association held its annual reunion at RAF Lyneham on Saturday by permission of Group Captain J. Hardstaff, station commander. Sir Arthur Norman, president, welcomed the guests and Air Vice-Marshal D. P. Hall, Air Officer Commanding 38 Group, was the guest of honour.

Memorial service

Sir Norman Stronge and Mr J. Stronge
A memorial service for Sir Norman Stronge and Mr James Stronge was held in St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast, on Saturday. The Dean of Belfast, the Very Rev Samuel Crooks, officiated, assisted by the Rev S. Callaghan, President of the Methodist Church in Ireland, who led the prayers, and the Bishop of Connor, who pronounced the blessing. The Rev R. Craig read the lesson and the Most Rev George Simms gave an address. Lord Glentoran, Lord Lieutenant of Belfast, the Lord Mayor of Belfast and the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland and Mrs Humphrey Atkins attended. Others present included:

Mrs Thomas Kingan, Mrs Charles Olivier; Lord Lowry, Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland, Lord Justice Jones, Lord Justice Gibson, Mr Herbert Kirk, Mr Basil McIvor, Lieutenant-General Sir Richard Lawson, GOC Northern Ireland, General Sir Charles Jones (president, Royal British Legion), Mr John Hermon, Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, Mr John Biggs-Davison, MP (United Kingdom branch, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association), Mr Gerald Fitt, MP, Mr John McQuade, MP.

Mr Harold McCusker, MP, Mr James Molyneaux, MP, the Very Rev John Crooks (representing the Archbishop of Armagh and the Primate of All Ireland), Prebendary William Macourt (representing the Bishop of Down and Dromore), Major Alistair Boyne, Judge Rowland, Miss B. Maconachie, Miss Sheila Murnaghan, Mr Roy Radford, Mr Walter Scott, Mr Austin Ardill; Mr Robert Babington, Mr Tommy Boyd, Mr Ronald Blackburn, Mr Fred Burns and Mr Thomas Douglas.

Deputy lieutenants

The following have been appointed deputy lieutenants of Humberside: Lord Hotham, Mr J. R. Chichester-Constable, Dr J. H. D. Millar, Colonel J. H. Earnshaw and Mr Norman Jackson.

Lord Mayor of London

The following are some of the Lord Mayor's engagements this week:
Today: Attends freedom of the City ceremonies for Lieutenant-General Sir David Willison, Chief Royal Engineer, and Major-General G. B. Sinclair, Engineer-in-Chief, Army, Guildhall, 12.30.
Tomorrow: Receives Prime Minister of Peru, Mansion House, 10.45.
Wednesday: Presides at Special Court of Lieutenancy, Mansion House, 11.
Thursday: Receives Moor Lane Fire Station officers, Mansion House, 5.30.
Friday: Attends opening of British Small Animal Veterinary Association Congress, Cunard International Hotel, Hammersmith, 10.

Premium Bond winners

Winning numbers in the weekly draw for £100,000, £50,000 and £25,000 Premium Savings Bond prizes, announced on Saturday, are:
£100,000: No 15RZ 031564 (winner comes from Norfolk); £50,000: 18VT 205081 (Bournemouth); £25,000: 6ML 619541 (Sunderland).

25 years ago

From The Times of Thursday, March 29 1956

Deaths by fog

From Our Medical Correspondent
The fog in January this year was probably responsible for 1,000 deaths in the Greater London area according to figures published in the current issue of the British Medical Journal. The average number of deaths recorded daily began to rise abruptly within a short time of the appearance of the fog on January 3 to 4. It lasted until January 6. There was only a moderate reduction in the temperature at the time so that cold cannot be blamed for the increase and there was no epidemic of influenza. The increased mortality was mainly attributed to bronchitis and was numerically greatest among the elderly, although newborn babies showed a relatively steep rise in the death rate. Commenting on these figures, the chief medical statistician of the General Register Office points out that the sudden and serious rise in death rates in a fog period has become a frequent and alarming phenomenon only in recent years. The fog in December, 1952 caused 4,000 deaths in the London area, and the further 1,000 deaths this year "are a stern reminder that this major public health problem has not yet been solved".

MR HERBERT SCHEELE

Mr Herbert Scheele, OBE, who refereed the All England badminton championships from 1946 to 1980, died after a long illness in a London hospital yesterday, aged 76, as the finals of this year's event were getting under way at Wembley. As secretary of the International Badminton Federation for some 44 years, he was the best known and most respected badminton official in the world, a figure as familiar in Denmark, Indonesia, Japan and Malaysia as in his own country. He was the game's supreme authority on the laws, and its leading historian. Scheele was perhaps the outstanding example of the numerous English sporting officials who in the past three or four decades have been the guiding force behind a particular game's expansion around the globe.

Herbert August Edward Scheele was born at Bromley, Kent, and educated at Montpelier Academy, Montclair, New Jersey, and then at Dulwich College. At first lawn tennis was his first choice in sport, and he also played cricket and hockey at good club level in the Bromley area for many years. He was in his mid-twenties when he first became involved regularly in badminton. As a player he remained particularly effective in mixed doubles, and competed in many all-England championships at the Old Horticultural Hall, London, before the war, and was an England trials player in 1946-47 and 1947-48.

From the start, though, Scheele's main forte proved to be badminton administration. From 1935 until 1962 he held various offices in the Kent county association, and remained active at this level long after he had become the game's leading official world-wide. First elected to the English national council in 1936, he took on the secretaryship of the International Badminton Federation in 1938, and from 1945 until 1970 he held the same job for the Badminton Association of England as well. He was also editor of the game's magazine, *Badminton Gazette*, this period, and also was in charge of badminton's international magazine.

It was after the war that Scheele was seen at his authoritative best on five continents as badminton developed into a major sport. No event was held of any importance without his being the tournament referee. At 6ft 4in with a long, flowing mane of hair that became increasingly white as the years progressed, he was a dominant personality as he ruled competitions in all parts of the world with a passionate dedication to ensuring that the right and correct course was followed. He was seldom seen without a cigarette hanging from the side of his mouth, and back trouble forced him to use a stick to walk with in later years.

The sight of Scheele limping on to court to rule on a dispute brought both help and consolation to umpire and player. The one knew that the law would be adjudicated strictly, the other was aware that justice would be done. His bravest, arguably, and most famous decision was to abandon an Indonesia v Malaysia Thomas Cup tie in front of a hostile Jakarta crowd who refused to keep quiet and were on the point of rioting as their team struggled. It was a tribute to Scheele that he officiated on later occasions in Indonesia and was always warmly welcomed by that country's volatile spectators.

Ill health and the passing of the years had forced Scheele to give up his administrative responsibilities one by one in the past three years, but he remained as a coopted and valued member on most committees, nationally and internationally. In his spare time in the summer his great love was to watch county cricket, particularly Kent. He was a prominent cricket historian and researcher and worked to full effect for the Association of Cricket Statisticians.

Scheele is survived by his wife Betty. They were married in 1946. There were no

SIR LESLIE FORD

Sir Leslie Ford, OBE, who died on March 22 at the age of 83, spent most of his active life in service to the port industry. He was General Manager of the Port of London Authority from 1948 to 1964.

He joined the Great Western Railway Company in 1912. After a wartime interruption during which he celebrated his 18th, 19th and 20th birthdays in the trenches he rose steadily through various posts in South Wales ports until in 1944 he became Chief Docks Manager and so, like his father before him, a principal officer of the company.

The vital strategic importance of the South Wales ports in our maritime links with the United States and other sources of essential wartime supplies cast heavy burdens on port management at all levels and his appointment as OBE was a due recognition of Ford's outstanding personal contribution to the war effort. He was very much a Great Western man and his temperament and qualities knitted readily into the special style and standards of that remarkable institution.

His greatest pleasure immediately after the war, when he could find time from the very substantial responsibilities of repairing wartime damage to the South Wales ports, was to oversee the design and building of the two vessels—the St David and the St Patrick—ordered by the Great Western Company to replace wartime sinkings. These ships, intended primarily for the South Wales-Ireland route, owed much in design and appointment to his unceasing search for perfection.

In 1948 he was invited to succeed another Welshman, Theo Williams, as General Manager of the Port of London Authority.

There, under Lord Waverley and Lord Simon, he had to manage a major world port amid the conflicting currents of post-war reconstruction, technological changes in maritime transport and a consistently delicate labour situation.

One of his least agreeable tasks was to separate the Port from its traditional setting as part of the London scene and begin the long and, probably, still unfinished shift of activity further and further down the Thames. Despite these obligations and the extra work associated with the Rochdale Inquiry into the British port industry and its subsequent report he found time to act as the Authority's ambassador. Even today, over 15 years after his retirement, he is still remembered with admiration and affection in many parts of the United States, Australasia, Japan and South East Asia as well as Western Europe. Later this year the International Association of Ports and Harbours planned to present him with their silver medal as a mark of particular appreciation of his service to the international port industry.

In public life, his loyalty to those he served—below as well as above him in rank—was a central characteristic. He matched this with a patent and profound affection for his family.

He was indeed fortunate not only to have had so much to give but to have found people and institutions so worthy of the giving.

Ryurik Ivnev (the pseudonym of M. A. Kovalev), the Russian poet, novelist, and memoirist, has died in Moscow at the age of 90. The last surviving member of the Russian Imaginist movement, which he helped found in 1919, Ivnev knew most of the leading Russian poets of this century, including Blok, Esenin, Mayakovsky and Mandelstam.

Lady Cooke, widow of Sir Douglas Cooke, FRCS, died on March 19 in London. She was Elsie Muriel, daughter of Major-General James Burston, of Melbourne, Australia, and she was married in 1907.

Mr Dimitri Zhukov, Russian Ambassador to Brazil, died in Brasilia on March 24. He was 71.

MP accused of bias on factory methods

Farming and food

Hugh Clayton

A charge of bias against Sir William Elliott, chairman of the Commons select committee on agriculture, has been made at a meeting of a committee of the National Farmers' Union of England and Wales. That fact, recorded in the minutes of the committee, is the only visible clue to a bizarre attempt by the union to steer the committee away from ruling against factory farming in its next published report.

The affair began in January when the NFU and two other farmer's unions gave evidence at a public hearing of the select committee. The unions were concerned that the committee was only at half strength. That was because some had just been given front-bench posts and successors had not been appointed.

The unions were alarmed by an intervention by Sir William when Mrs Fiona Dalrymple, convener of the pigs committee of the Scottish NFU, was explaining that she did not believe shoppers would be willing to pay extra for meat and eggs that were guaranteed not to have been produced by intensive methods.

Sir William leaned forward and told Mrs Dalrymple that committee members had visited a veal farm in Normandy. "It may interest you to know that I will never touch veal again until these conditions are changed", he said.

The farmers' unions were even more alarmed a week later when the Farm Animal Welfare Coordinating Executive, an umbrella organization of welfare bodies which oppose factory farming, was given a particularly warm welcome by the select committee.

Sir William concluded the public hearing with the executive by saying: "You have been, if I may say so, excellent witnesses. Our inquiry will benefit, I am sure, from what you have told us. I thank you very warmly for being with us this morning."

The minutes of the poultry committee of the NFU of England and Wales show that members were told soon after the hearings at Westminster that "it appeared that certain MPs appeared to have prejudices against intensive livestock farming".

The minutes of the separate poultry steering committee recorded that "concern was expressed regarding the obvious bias of the committee chairman".

Leaders of the union, who are under strong pressure from rural members to be more forthright in countering attacks on factory farming, decided that the select committee was heading in a dangerous direction.

Mr Alan Jackson, deputy president of the NFU of England and Wales, explained the union's worries: "I think the problem was about his comments about veal. We were very upset about that. We expect the chairman to be impartial.

"The poultry committee thought that the members of the select committee might not have studied in full the evidence that we had submitted at a very early stage. There was a very small turnout and that again upset our people. We were very upset by the comments at the following week's hearing with FAWCE."

Sir William, who is himself a farmer, issued a statement about the affair last week, and made it clear that the final report from the select committee would take account of all evidence received.

Science report

Evolution: Alternative genetic code

From Clive Cookson
of *The Times Higher Education Supplement*
Washington

An extremely simple self-replicating chemical system could have been the first precursor of living cells, according to a new theory about the origin of life, proposed by an American chemist.

Dr David White, of the University of Santa Clara, says his system, which he calls an "autogen", is the first important self-replication theory to be proposed for a decade. Its most notable feature is chemical simplicity, though that does not make it particularly simple to explain to a non-chemist. The system, described in the *Journal of Molecular Evolution*, consists of two simple peptide molecules (short chains of less than 10 amino acids) and two simple polynucleotides (equally short sequences of nucleic acids).

The polynucleotides are prototype genes, which replicate themselves and code for two peptides. The peptides serve as prototype enzymes: one catalyses the replication of the genes and the other catalyses the "translation" of the genes into both peptides. The autogen is therefore analogous to the far more complex genetic system of living organisms today, in which very large polynucleotides—DNA and RNA—code for polypeptide enzymes.

However, unlike the extremely specific, highly accurate processes of the modern cell, the early system of living organisms today, is crude and "sloppy". It can work if the translation from gene to enzyme, chemically the least certain step, is no more than 10 per cent accurate. Even the replication of the genes could be wrong one time in ten.

According to the theory, the autogen originated more than four thousand million years ago in the famous "primordial soup" in which small organic molecules, including short peptide and polynucleotide chains, were being formed at random. Over the past 30 years many scientists have discharged electricity through simple gas mixture, imitating lightning in the Earth's early atmosphere, and identified amino acids and, less often, nucleotides among the products.

These polynucleotide and peptide molecules were brought together, for example, on a clay or mineral surface. There the nucleotides began to influence the formation of peptides from amino acids; a specific sequence of acids tended to form slightly more frequently next to a certain nucleotide sequence. In Dr White's theory, this was the first step towards translation of a genetic code.

At the same time some of the peptides started to act as proto-enzymes, catalyzing (speeding up) the translation and replication of the nucleotides. If one nucleotide coded for a translation proto-enzyme and another for a replication enzyme, these four simple compounds would have formed a self-replicating system.

Computer modelling shows that once the autogen had arisen from a chance combination of the right peptide and polynucleotides, it would reproduce very quickly by a self-reinforcing cycle and would soon dominate its chemical environment. Its emergence would make the transition from chemical to biological (Darwinian) evolution, since the genetic processes of reproduction and mutation would now be taking place. Natural selection between variants of the system could lead rapidly to longer molecules, acting as more efficient enzymes and genes.

Dr White and his colleagues have not got experimental evidence of all the processes required by the autogen. But they have shown that one extremely simple peptide, histidyl-histidine, consisting of just two amino acid units, catalyzes the polymerization of another amino acid, glycine, on a clay surface. Dr White suggests that histidyl-histidine provides a model of a primitive proto-enzyme.

Unlike previous theories on the origin of life, the autogen should be capable of direct experimental verification. If scientists can find the right conditions, the system should emerge spontaneously and rapidly—within a few weeks—in the laboratory.

"Such a laboratory experiment would demonstrate the most fundamental step in the process of the origin of a living cell", Dr White said, "and would produce a system which might continue to evolve to other forms in the laboratory through rapid Darwinian natural selection".

Source: *Journal of Molecular Evolution*, vol 16, pp 121, 147 and 279-290.

Parliamentary diary

House of Commons
Mar 23: Statements on Civil Service dispute and on outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease. Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Scotland) Bill, considered on report and adjourned: Supplementary Benefit (Requirements) Amendment Regulations and the Mortgaging of Aircraft (Amendment) Order both agreed to. Adjournment debate about interoperability of weapons within Nato. House adjourned, 2.47 a.m. (Tuesday).
Mar 24: Statement on Canvey Island methane gas plant. Motion to bring in House of Commons Disqualification Act 1975 (Amendment) Bill rejected by 166 votes to 142. Opposition motion on overseas aid rejected by 302 votes to 245 and Government amendment agreed to. Lloyd's Bill read a second time by 206 votes to 32. Merchant Shipping Bill and International Organisations Bill both read the third time. Adjournment debate about military service as part of the youth opportunities programme. House adjourned, 10.59 p.m.
March 25: Barnsley Borough Council Bill read the third time. Statement on European Council Meeting. Gaelic Language Bill read a first time. Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Scotland) Bill completed the report stage and read the third time by 293 votes to 229. Ports (Financial Assistance) Bill read a second time after Opposition amendment was rejected by 137 votes to 81. Transport Boards (Adjustment of Payments) Order agreed to. Adjournment debate about proposed closure of BRD factory at Newtown, Powys. House adjourned, 12.25 am (Thursday).
March 26: British Transport Docks Bill read a second time. Statement on security. Motion on common agricultural policy agreed to after Opposition amendment was agreed to. Enterprise Zones (Northern Ireland) Order, Planning Blight (Compensation) (Northern Ireland) Order, and the Public Order (Northern Ireland) Order all agreed to. Adjournment debate about rules governing statements by civil servants about policy matters. House adjourned, midnight.
March 27: Debate on motion on need for competitive industrial fuel costs in United Kingdom adjourned. Food and Drugs (Amendment) Bill and Transport Act 1962 (Amendment) Bill read a second time. Adjournment debate on poultry industry. House adjourned, 3.2 pm.

House of Lords
Mar 23: English Industrial Estates Corporation Bill (Consolidation) and Public Passenger Vehicles Bill (Consolidation) both read the third time and passed. Companies (No 2) Bill completed the committee stage. Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1976 (Continuance) Order agreed to. House adjourned, 7.45 pm.
Mar 24: Prayer Book Protection Bill read a first time. Lloyd's Bank Bill read a second time. National Film Finance Corporation Bill, Film Levy Finance Bill both read the third time and passed. Merseyside Development Corporation (Area and Constitution) Order agreed to. Matrimonial Homes (Family Protection) (Scotland) Bill, Water Bill, Forgery and Counterfeiting Bill all completed the committee stage. Debate on effects of increase in petrol duty. House adjourned, 9.51 pm.
Mar 25: Statement about European Council meeting. Allied Irish Banks Bill read a second time. Debates on agriculture and on policy of some local authorities on closed shops. Marriage (Enabling) Bill completed the committee stage. House adjourned, 11.05 pm.
March 26: Statement on security. Planning Blight Compensation (Northern Ireland) Order. Public Order (Northern Ireland) Order. Supplementary Benefit (Requirements) (Amendment) Regulations, and Transport Boards (Adjustment of Payments) Order all agreed to. Supreme Court Bill passed the report stage and the Interpretation of Legislation Bill completed the committee stage. Debate on report of European Communities Committee on the proposed accession of the EEC to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms. House adjourned, 9.36 pm.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons
Today at 2.30: Debate on unemployment on motion for the adjournment. Remaining stages of the Parliamentary Commissioner (Consular Complaints) Bill.
Tomorrow at 2.30: Remaining stages of the Forestry Bill and the Criminal Attempts Bill. Motions relating to National Health Service (Dental and Optical Charges and Remission of Charges) Regulations.
Wednesday at 2.30: Remaining stages of the British Telecommunications Bill.
Thursday at 2.30: Remaining stages of the Energy Conservation Bill. Motion on EEC document on research and development in biomolecular engineering. Motion on Queen's University of Belfast (Northern Ireland) Order. Opposed Private Bill: Greater Manchester Bill.
Friday at 9.30: Private members' motions on industry and the school curriculum and on water authorities.

Select committees:
Today: Home Affairs: Sub-committee on race relations and immigration. Subject: The operation and effectiveness of the Commission for Racial Equality. Witnesses: Commission for Racial Equality. Room 15, 11 am.
Education, Science and Arts. Subject: Public and private funding of the Arts. Witnesses: National Theatre (4 pm), Royal Shakespeare Company (4.45 pm). Room 6.
Treasury and Civil Service. Subject: The Budget and Government's expenditure plans 1981-82 to 1983-84. Witness: Mr Gordon Richardson, Governor of the Bank of England. Room 15, 4.30 pm.
Public Accounts. Subject: Local autonomy of the national health service authorities and central financial control by health departments. Witnesses: Sir Patrick Nairne, Permanent Secretary, Department of Health and Social Security: Mr A. L. Rennie, Secretary, Scottish Home and Health Department: Mr T. P. Hughes, Permanent Secretary, Welsh Office.
Tuesday: Foreign Affairs, Overseas Development Subcommittee. Subject: The role of the Government in relation to the Mexico summit in the light of the Brandt Commission report. Witnesses: Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Overseas Development Administration: Oxfam: Society for International Development. Room 15, 3.15 pm.
Wednesday: Education, Science and Arts. Subject: Public and Private Funding of the arts. Witnesses: Royal Academy of Arts (10 am); Associations for Business Sponsorship of the Arts (11 am). Room 6.
Foreign Affairs, Subject: The situation in Gibraltar and the United Kingdom relations with Spain. Witnesses: Mr Albert McQuarrie, MP, Sir Nigel Fisher, MP, and Mr Michael Latham, MP, the British Gibraltar Parliamentary Group. Room 15. 10.30 am.
Scottish Affairs. Subject: Youth unemployment in Scotland. Witnesses: Association of Directors of Education in Scotland: Scottish Community Education Centre. Room 6, 10.30 am.
Public Accounts. Subject: Local autonomy of the national health service authorities and central financial control by Health Departments. Witnesses: Sir Patrick Nairne, Permanent Secretary, DHSS, Mr A. L. Rennie, Secretary, Scottish Home and Health Department; Mr T. P. Hughes, Permanent Secretary, Welsh Office. Room 16. 4 pm.
Industry and Trade. Subject: Effects of the British Steel Corporation's corporate plan. Witness: Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry. Room 6. 4.15 pm.
Transport. Subject: Transportation in London. Witnesses: Representatives of the Department of Transport. Room 17. 4.15 pm.
Social Services. Subject: Medical Education. Witnesses: Faculty of Anaesthetists, Royal College of Radiologists, Royal College of Physicians (Geriatricians) (4.30); Royal College of Pathologists, Faculty of Community Medicine, Royal College of Psychiatrists (5.30). Room 8.
Armed Forces Bill. Witnesses: Officials of the Ministry of Defence. Room 5. 3.15 pm.

House of Lords
Today at 2.30: Wildlife and Countryside Bill, third reading.
Tomorrow at 2.30: Water Bill, report. Fisheries Bill, second reading. Debate on need for more effective system of mental after-care.
Wednesday at 2.30: Debate on consultative document on trade union immunities. Debate on third London airport.
Thursday at 3: Enterprise Zones (Northern Ireland) Order and Queen's University of Belfast (Northern Ireland) Order. Mortgaging of Aircraft (Amendment) Order. Supreme Court Bill and Water Bill, third readings. Forgery and Counterfeiting Bill, report. Laboratory Animals Protection Bill, committee.

Select committees
Tuesday: European Communities. Evidence from the CBI on the impact of EEC legislation on British business. 3 pm.
Wednesday: Science and Technology subcommittee I (Science and Government). Evidence from Sir Hermann Bondi and Sir Peter Cary of the Department of Industry and from Dr Duncan Davies, chief scientist. 3.15 pm.
Thursday: European communities subcommittee F (Energy, Transport, Technology and Research). Evidence from Mr C. Layton of the EEC Commission on new information technologies. 11 am.
Science and Technology Subcommittee II (Hazardous Waste). Evidence from Association of County Councils (3 pm) and South Yorkshire Council (4 pm).

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THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

Women's continuing fight for equalty, page 17



- Stock markets
  FT Index 521.3
  FT Gilts 70.16
- Sterling
  $2.2280
  Index 100.4
- Dollar
  Index 100.7
  DM 2.1160
- Gold
  $539.50
- Money
  3 mth sterling 12½-12⅝
  3 mth Euro $ 15½-14½
  6 mth Euro $ 15½-15¼
  Friday's close

IN BRIEF

Bankers to open talks on Polish loan plea

Western bankers are to meet in London tomorrow to discuss Poland's request last month for an emergency loan of $1,000m (£443m). But they will not grant new credit now as they are waiting for western governments to reach agreement on rescheduling the $10,350m still owed to them.

Official creditor nations of Poland are scheduled to meet again in Paris next week, but it is reported that their work has been impeded by the absence of any credible plan put forward by Poland that would give reason to believe the current financial crisis could be overcome. Poland last week estimated its total foreign debts at $27,000m.

Bank lending

Bank lending went up by £2,008m, or 3.8 per cent, in the three months to mid-February, according to Bank of England figures published today. But the Bank estimates that the increase, which is four times that in the previous three months, was heavily influenced by seasonal distortions. When these are removed, the underlying trend of increase is thought to show little change from the previous three-month period.

Eurofer talks

Executives from Eurofer, the group of EEC steelmaking companies, yesterday resumed negotiations in Luxembourg to draw up a voluntary agreement on production and delivery restraint to replace the European Commission's scheme of mandatory production quotas for steel which expires at the end of June.

hoe deliveries down

Footwear manufacturers' deliveries to the retail trade were own 23 per cent in volume in anuary compared with the me month last year and new ders were down more than per cent, according to the itish Footwear Manufacturers' Federation.

hip design group

British Shipbuilders has med a new company to run product development and search and development programmes. British Shipbuilders drodynamics will have particular responsibility for new designs for fuel-saving hulls.

50 jobs may go

Staveley Industries is to close Asquith machine tool factory at Halifax with the loss 150 jobs. But talks are to take place about the possible e of part of the business to the Asquith management ich could preserve about 100 s on the site.

akery to close

The Sunblest bakery in Norwich, part of Allied Bakeries, to close on May 2 with the s of 150 jobs. Another 130 rkers will be transferred to more modern Betabake ery in Norwich.

dia accuses Iran

ndia has accused Iran of king out of its commitment the Kudremukh iron-ore plex but says that it does propose to retaliate by zing Iranian investments or ds. in Indian companies.

an for Tunisia

he Kuwait Fund for Arab nomic Development has ned two loan agreements h Tunisia worth $40m to finance road and irrigation elopment projects.

ime rate cut

he United Overseas Bank up of Singapore is to cut its ne lending rate today to 13 cent from 13½ per cent.

CBI says output still slipping and jobless total set for 3.25m

By Patricia Tisdall
Management Correspondent

The decline in manufacturing industry's output, which industrialists had hoped had touched bottom, will carry on sliding and relief is now not expected until 1982, according to economic forecasts published by the Confederation of British Industry today. The revised forecasts make it clear that a slowing-down in the rate of decrease perceived during the past two months will be strictly temporary.

The CBI's predictions clash with the guarded optimism about the economy shown by Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, before the Commons Treasury select committee last Wednesday, where he predicted that the recession would bottom out some time during the first half of this year.

The forecasts, which have been revised to take account of the impact of the Budget measures, are exceptionally gloomy. Unemployment is expected to continue on an upward trend to the end of next year, when CBI economists are predicting about 3.25 million people will be out of work.

Manufacturing output, which it had been hoped might recover once stock pipelines were emptied, is expected to continue falling until the first half of 1982, to reach nearly 20 per cent below its 1979 level.

"Output in the whole economy, after probably temporarily ceasing to decline in the first quarter of this year in relation to the preceding three months, will resume its downward path, and the decline may not come to an end until the beginning of next year", the CBI's economic situation report says.

The downward revision is almost entirely attributed to the effects of the Budget on demand. For the rest of this year, the CBI expects that falls in all the major components of demand will more than offset the results of lower stock levels to lead to a fall in gross domestic product, which by the end of 1981 is expected to be 3 per cent lower than 1980, with a further small fall expected for 1982.

Ignoring the indirect deflationary impact, the Budget measures are calculated directly to drain between £500m and £600m from business in the current financial year, as a result of higher petrol and oil duties, higher vehicle excise duty and other increased costs.

CBI economists believe that the deflationary impact of the Budget on top of the depressing outlook for exports will more than counterbalance the easing in orders and output shown in the monthly inquiry into trends in manufacturing industry, also published today.

This shows that the proportion of industrialists whose order books were considered below normal in March had dropped from 76 per cent to 74 per cent.

Another hopeful sign was the decrease in the companies which expected volume of output to decline in the next four months. This dropped from 31 per cent in February to 27 per cent in March.

BSC may face new clash over decision on £50m coal imports

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

A new controversy threatens to erupt within the next few weeks over coal imports by the British Steel Corporation.

Senior executives of the corporation will decide shortly whether a contract for 400,000 tonnes of coal a year, worth an estimated £50m over three years, should go to the National Coal Board or to an American mining company. The decision is important as it follows the Government's intervention last month in the coal board's pit-closure programme and its commitment to secure a reduction in coal imports by the steel corporation and the Central Electricity Generating Board, the coal board's two largest customers.

Negotiations on the contract are highly sensitive in view of the importance which the National Union of Mineworkers has attached to coal imports.

Miners' leaders want imports by the two leading state owned consuming industries brought down to an "irreducible minimum".

Steel corporation executives have stressed that even with the best intentions that level would amount to more than 1.5 million tonnes in the corporation's case.

In the new financial year which begins this week the steel corporation expects to import about 3 million tonnes of coal, about a million tonnes more than the electricity generating board.

Supplies will be drawn largely from Australia and Poland and the United States where miners began a strike at the end of last week.

In a deal last September, the steel corporation contracted to buy 4.5 million tonnes of coking coal from the coal board at prices which involved a coal board subsidy of more than £40m.

A feature of that agreement was that the steel corporation would invite the coal board to tender for imported tonnages when agreements with foreign suppliers came up for renewal.

The contract for 400,000 tonnes a year now under offer to the coal board, and previously supplied from the United States, is the first case considered since that agreement was made. Another long term contract, involving between 200,000 and 300,000 tonnes is scheduled for renewal later this year.

The steel corporation put its offer formally to the coal board in mid-February and detailed discussions have taken place. The steel corporation's technical experts are now evaluating the coal board's proposals for supplying the tonnage required and their recommendations are expected shortly.

The corporation, which spends between £320m and £340m on coal supplies annually, has made it clear that the coal board will be expected to tender at the world market price, which is substantially below the coal board's own list price. But its senior executives have said that the board will have to be able to satisfy the stringent quality requirements which the steel corporation demands.

Consistency of supply and of quality are regarded by the corporation as essential to its coking coal purchases if it is to achieve the level of efficiency and yield from its modern blast furnaces.

There appears to be some scepticism that the coal board will be able to meet these requirements laid down as it is understood that the board has proposed that the quality required by the steel corporation could be obtained from several different collieries.

Mr Ian MacGregor, the steel corporation chairman told MPs recently that he would consider it "tragic" if the corporation were restrained from importing coking coal since it would force the corporation to "take a pace backwards in its attempts to make itself reasonably efficient".

"One of the fallacies is that coal, is coal, is coal. Coking coal is a highly sophisticated material. The penalty of using substitute coal is rather difficult to work out, but it is much larger than the cost of coal", he said.

Hotel chiefs gather ammunition in battle for the Savoy

By Philip Robinson in London and Anthony Hilton in New York

The £58m battle by Sir Charles Forte for Sir Hugh Wontner's Savoy hotels group begins in earnest this week.

Trusthouse Forte has now sent Savoy shareholders a letter explaining why it is seeking High Court permission to call meetings for them. Sir Hugh has refused to call the meetings himself.

Already there has been evidence of personal acrimony between the two and the City is intrigued by how Sir Hugh will fight Sir Charles's first contested bid.

One delicate subject which Sir Hugh could well raise again is the abrupt departure of Trusthouse from operating the 384-bedroom Pierre Hotel in New York. Around 192 rooms are apartments which are let to wealthy tenants on a permanent basis.

The operating structure of the Pierre is complex. It is owned by a private company, 795 Fifth Avenue. Appointments to its board of directors are influenced by the apartment holders.

Trusthouse obtained the operating contract on a long lease about three years ago. Since then it has spent an estimated £5m on improvements. The contract had a three-year break clause which was exercised after some recent board changes.

The Canadian-based Four Seasons chain, which owns the Inn on the Park in London, signed a 21-year lease with the Pierre operative from March 1. Trusthouse is currently suing the Pierre and its so-called "cave dwellers" (apartment holders) over the contract.

The chairman of 795 Fifth Avenue was not available for comment. His lawyer said he was in Florida.

One recent tenant of Pierre was Mr Michele Sindona who owned an apartment said to be worth in excess of $500,000.

The Four Seasons chain was started and is still owned by the 47-year-old Canadian Mr Isadore Sharp. He studied architecture and went into the family housebuilding business in 1952. His first hotel, the Four Seasons in Toronto, was opened in 1961, as a start to entering the luxury market. He now owns 15 hotels in leading Canadian and Americant cities.

Sir Charles is adamant that his group did not lose the contract on any issue which related to standards of hotel management.

Sir Hugh's own Savoy has a number of wealthy tenants, including among them the American actress Elaine Stritch.

Any suggestion that Sir Charles wants the Savoy because of the loss of Pierre, which was seen as Trusthouse's international flagship, would be hotly denied. The flashpoint for Sir Charles's takeover came when the Savoy, which also owns Claridge's, the Connaught and the Berkeley, decided to sell offices and flats above Simpsons in the Strand.

New York's Pierre Hotel.

Sir Charles reiterates the point to Savoy shareholders today as he waits for the High Court's decision which is expected some time next week.

In his letter, explaining the means by which he intends to put his offers to the "A" and "B" shareholders to the vote, he says: "We are advised that it is entirely appropriate and indeed the best way of fulfilling normal standard of fairness to put these proposals to you by way of a Scheme of Arrangement. As a consequence the holders of "A" ordinary shares who are entitled to no less than 97.7 per cent of the Savoy's total equity, but only 51.5 per cent of the votes, can determine the future of their investment."

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New suitor for 20th Century Fox

From Ivor Davies
Los Angeles, March 29

Mr Kirk Kerkorian, the financier who holds the controlling stake in the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer film company, may be interested in buying 20th Century Fox, now that Mr Marvin Davis, a Denver oilman, has withdrawn.

Mr Gregson Bautzer, the lawyer who represents Mr Kerkorian, said over the weekend that Mr Kerkorian was likely to become Fox's next suitor.

Only last month Mr Kerkorian received $79m (£35.5m) for his interests in Columbia Pictures and had expressed an interest in acquiring Fox before Mr Davis first offered $800m for the company in February.

Mr Bautzer said that Mr Kerkorian telephoned Mr Herbert Siegel, the chairman of Chris Craft Industries, to discuss the situation shortly after Mr Davis announced that he was withdrawing. Chris Craft owns the largest block of Fox shares.

Mr Bautzer refused to elaborate on the nature of the deal that Mr Kerkorian was seeking, but said that he was convinced that Mr Kerkorian would pursue the matter. "Whether this would be a buyout of Fox, or if Fox will handle the distribution of MGM films will have to be determined later", he said.

Mr Davis's withdrawal continued to be the talk of Hollywood over the weekend. Mr Davis remained silent but Mr Lee Solters, a publicist who was representing him, suggested that he had backed out of the deal because he did not like the way he was being treated by Fox.

Mr Solters said in a statement: "Someone thought Marvin Davis would not back out of the deal at the last minute but learned otherwise and one should now be convinced that Marvin Davis is a businessman who cannot be intimidated and manipulated".

On the stock market Fox shares closed on Friday at $55, down $6.75 on a turnover of 358,700 shares making the film company the tenth most actively traded stock.

Long-term corporate bonds may return

By Ronald Pullen

At least two major British companies are believed to have booked places in the Bank of England's cash-raising queue in order to make corporate bond issues when the time is right.

In both cases the issuers are hoping to see the structure of long-term yields drop another 1 per cent before they test the market.

Such a move would represent a large new source of capital for British industry as the corporate fixed-interest market has been virtually inactive since 1974. Companies have been reluctant to borrow funds for periods of between 20 and 25 years at the high rates of interest prevailing in recent years.

From 1963 to 1972 some 15 per cent of industrial and commercial companies' external funds was in the form of loan capital, but since 1974 net redemptions of loan capital (including debentures) have become common.

The Wilson report on the working of financial institutions pointed to the "dormancy of the long-term fixed-interest loan market as one of the major deficiencies in the financial system".

Despite a growing trend in the 1970s towards medium-term lending by the clearing banks, such lending has been no substitute for the semi-permanent funds at a "known cost and with known repayment dates", as the Wilson report put it, that the corporate bond market provides.

Now that inflation and interest rates appear to be falling, and with more hope than recent years that this will be sustained, corporate treasurers are again looking towards the long-term capital markets.

Recent events have also underlined the appetite of the investing institutions towards such markets. Last week the Leeds £50m issue for 25 years was oversubscribed, and since the ending of exchange controls overseas borrowers have successfully tapped the London sterling market for money over 35 years in one instance.

Financial Editor, page 17

Car industry hardest hit by redundancies

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

The Trades Union Congress has analysed the industrial impact of job losses ahead of its conference next week on emergency measures to combat the rising tide of redundancies, and concluded that the vehicle industry has suffered more than any other. Lost jobs in car plants account for over 23 per cent of the 107,092 toll in the four months to February 1.

Engineering, metal manufacture and textiles have also been hit hard, but the unions discern a "small increase" in employment levels in state-run gas, water and electricity utilities and in public administration, and a substantial increase in other service industries of 28,000.

The TUC is poised to revive its crisis guidance issued during the 1974 period of the three day week to union negotiators faced with large-scale redundancies. At a conference on unemployment and working time on April 9, union leaders will be asked to consider emergency measures to ban overtime, institute work-sharing and short time in the interests of saving jobs.

"Employment has fallen swiftly in most manufacturing industries over the last 12 months", the TUC reports. Latest figures show a loss of jobs of nearly 900,000 in the year to November last, compared with the rise in registered unemployed of just over 700,000.

The decline has hit five industrial sectors worst. Employment in engineering fell by 157,000 and in textiles by 114,000. Figures for metal manufacture were 77,000, vehicles 63,000 and metal goods 58,000. "The rate of loss of jobs in manufacturing has also been accelerating," the TUC adds.

Nearly a quarter of all redundancies were in the vehicle industries, indicating that the high rate of job loss in the industry has continued into 1981. "Further indications of future job losses come from recent industry estimates that car sales in February 1981 were nearly a fifth down on the corresponding month in 1980 and the prospect of up to 20,000 redundancies within BL alone."

REPORTED REDUNDANCIES BY INDUSTRY (1.10.80 TO 1.2.81)

Industry	Number of reported redundancies	Percentage of reported redundancies
Vehicles	25,049	23.4
Engineering and metal goods	15,709	14.7
Metal manufacture	12,805	12.0
Textiles, clothing, footwear	12,539	11.7
Food, drink, tobacco	9,300	8.7
Other industries	20,756	19.4
Non-manufacturing	10,934	10.2
Total	107,092	100.0

Ministers face energy costs attack

By Patricia Tisdall

Government ministers are expected to come under sharp attack from both trade union and employers' leaders over energy costs at the National Economic Development Council meeting on Wednesday.

Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy, is due to open the debate with a report on industrial energy prices at the meeting, the first since the Budget.

At the last NEDC meeting which considered detailed costs Mr Howell promised a government response.

Industrialists interpreted this as a strong hint of assistance in the Budget. They are now expected to voice their bitter disappointment with the outcome and to press for monitoring of comparative international energy costs to be continued.

Reagan team determined not to make mistakes of Thatcher monetarism

President stands by promise of big tax cuts

President Reagan's budget programme will bring vast improvements in inflation expectations, with an enormous impact on savings and investment, Dr Norman Ture, under-secretary of the Treasury for tax and economic affairs, says. Dr Ture, who had a great deal of influence in designing the budget, added: "You would have the whole economy crashing through the 1,000 barrier".

Last week the Dow Jones industrial share price index hovered around the 1,000 level. However, a sustained breakthrough will not come until there is a clear picture of what is going to happen to the economy, so congressional action on the budget is important.

Dr Ture, aged 57, a professor, business consultant and former official in numerous United States administrations, is widely credited as being one of the fathers of supply-side economics. He sees changes in marginal tax rates and in public economic expectations playing vital roles in changing the economy's course.

In an interview he said that the "economy will take off" if there are some strong congressional endorsements of the tax and spending cuts, if the Federal Reserve Board provides clear signals of its determination to slow money supply growth, and if there is action on governmental deregulation of business.

Dr Ture said he considered Mrs Thatcher one of the bravest politicians in the world. One of her errors, however, was her failure to implement real marginal tax cuts on all incomes at the start of her term of office, with value-added tax increase offsetting too greatly the income tax reductions.

President Reagan is not making this error. He is going for full-scale 10 per cent across-the-board income tax reductions. Everyone's marginal rates will be reduced and at least one half to two thirds of the tax reductions will go into savings.

A 1 per cent rise in the savings rate means more than $25,000m (£11,100m) Dr Ture said. He revealed that after the tax cuts of the mid-1960s, the savings rate averaged between 7 and 8 per cent for a decade, from a level similar to today of around 5.5 per cent, and a similar gain in the savings rate was likely.

On Capitol Hill the Democrats appear to believe it is going to be politically easier to trim the tax cuts proposed by the President than the budget cuts.

Dr Ture is not worried. He said the opinion polls suggested there was stronger public demand for the tax cuts and the public's attitudes would have their effect on Congress.

He agued that the timetable suggested by Congressman James Jones, chairman of the budget committee, for full enactment of the tax and spending cuts by August 1, was realistic. He said he was aware of the effort by the Democrats to slow the approval process, but the administration was not going to let this happen.

Dr Ture argued that the budget deficit itself was not important, but what really mattered was how it was financed. Printing more money to finance the deficit was the most certain path to higher inflation.

Raising savings to finance the deficit and keeping overall money supply growth tightly controlled was the Reagan Administration's approach.

Dr Ture admitted that he could understand the confusion that abounded in Congress and across America about an administration whose tax and spending cuts produced a $45,000m budget defecit, and that still claimed inflation would fall. He clearly regretted that President Reagan campaigned so hard against the inflationary consequences of budget deficits.

The Reagan programme had been presented to Congress and the big task now is selling it. Dr Ture is explaining to the many unbelievers that tighter money policies with big tax cuts and large spending cuts can within months, set the American economy on its way to new prosperity.

Frank Vogl
in Washington

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
tralia $	2.00	1.92
tria Sch	35.43	33.25
ium Fr	83.00	79.00
ada $	2.72	2.63
mark Kr	15.65	14.85
and Mkk	9.57	9.07
ice Fr	11.60	11.10
many DM	4.94	4.70
ece Dr	117.00	111.10
k Kong	12.25	11.65
and Pd	1.35	1.29
Lir	2445.00	2335.00
in Yn	497.00	472.00
erlands Gld	5.46	5.20
Norway Kr	12.74	12.09
Portugal Esc	130.00	124.00
South Africa Rd	2.09	1.95
Spain Pta	196.00	187.00
Sweden Kr	10.85	10.30
Switzerland Fr	4.52	4.29
USA $	2.29	2.22
Yugoslavia Dnr	82.50	77.00

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MANAGEMENT

Edited by Andrew Goodrick-Clarke

More to food retailing than simply cutting prices

It may seem curious at a time when almost every high street shop has a sale or special promotion sign on display to suggest that discounting has had its day. But it is a fundamental retail axiom that a new sales approach is always needed.

Tesco, for one, has concluded that the time has come for change. "Pricing is important. But there is not such a difference between the prices in the big stores that people think it worth the shoe leather to go down the road just on that score", says Mr Ian MacLaurin, its managing director.

So in June Tesco will unveil a new campaign to replace "operation Checkout", which involved a dash for growth in sales volumes three years ago through discounting. That had followed Tesco's decision to drop giving trading stamps.

Checkout has served its purpose. Tesco is now second only to the Co-operative retail societies in market share, with 13.9 per cent of the market—just ahead of J. Sainsbury. It now needs a new marketing angle.

Sainsbury, emphasizing keen pricing, and with a strong fresh food line, is chasing hard. Once this year it pulled level in market share.

Tesco, too, has been putting an emphasis on fresh foods, such as greengrocery, bread from in-store bakeries and even fresh fish, particularly in its new large stores. It has been trying to add a quality image to the appeal of its prices.

The idea of the new campaign is to support this new approach. The same development can be seen in the newer stores of Associated Dairies' ASDA superstores chain, a far cry from the rough and ready cut-price outlets which once characterized the Leeds-based multiple.

Tesco knows that building an image of quality is a long slog. It can take years, even a decade. Mr MacLaurin concedes that a Marks and Spencer reputation cannot be built overnight.



Mr Ian MacLaurin, managing director of Tesco: a new campaign.



A Tesco store advertising the "Checkout" price campaign, which has pushed up the group's market share.

On the other hand as a recent British Food Trading Profile* by consultants Halliday Associates concluded, for price to be an affective selling point, a retailer would have to sell consistently and across a wide range of items at prices at least 5 per cent below its competitors.

The argument is that consumers are spending more in real terms on less food and that many retailers have not caught up with changing consumer preferences. An example given by Halliday is a superstore stocking 14,000 cans of baked beans but with no sign on the shelves of broad beans, kidney beans, asparagus, spinach, ratatouille and similar items.

Affluent households are growing at the expense of those in the middle and lower income bands. Those with £140 a week income or more have risen from 14 per cent in 1968 to 41 per cent last year. The middle category (£70 to £140 a week) fell from 49 per cent to 32 per cent and the lowest category (£70 or less) from 37 per cent to 27 per cent.

If all this evidence points away from an era of needle pricing—the likely retail market upturn next year being another factor—it leaves the big multiples with a problem, whether it be a Tesco hurrying to replace old small stores with larger units or an ASDA simply trying to expand its stock of large stores.

Multiples have been competing with each other to lay hands on sites for new store development, with the trend away from out-of-town locations back to town centres—which puts up the development costs.

The recession has caused many to temper their expansion into new, larger stores, but the investment taking place—£800m a year—is still substantial.

Tesco, faced with local authority planning delays which aggravate the costing problems, has come up with the idea of "private sector co-operatives." The multiples, scrambling for prime sites before the supply runs out, have often turned themselves into developers, producing packages acceptable to local authorities which often own the land.

Tesco wants to extend this idea, with local authorities setting planning targets and working with first-generation capital on cost-effective schemes.

The usual mix of retail interests—(W. H. Smith, Boots, Marks & Spencer and so on) and one or two superstores from the multiples—could be the chief source not only of capital but of the expertise that would put a scheme on the right lines.

Smaller retail outlets, possibly a public house and services useful to the community—a hall perhaps, would all fit into the project.

It could be a natural development. The pressures on Tesco, with its high borrowings, are well documented, though its decision to pull out of schemes at Watford, and more recently at an as-yet unidentified north of England district centre scheme, have not been dictated by borrowing considerations. It is certainly true that other multiples have complained that the cost of participating in new schemes is becoming prohibitive.

What Mr MacLaurin looks for from his company's "co-operatives" is that they could accelerate an often drawn-out process of getting schemes through the local authority machine.

When Tesco was first involved in the Watford development (in the mid-seventies), the estimated development cost was £8m; when Tesco pulled out recently the cost had risen to £15m and the development is still not let.

Derek Harris

*British Food Trading Profile, Halliday Associates, Stanway, Essex; £125.

Towards the European accountant

Publication of the European Economic Community's proposed Eighth Directive on the qualifications of those eligible to audit limited companies (statutory aduditors) focuses attention on the widely varying methods of qualification as an accountant in the Community.

For those still struggling through difficult examinations in Britain it may be some comfort to see the problems faced by people in other EEC countries.

Our table attempts to compare the principal qualifications in each country. Greece is not included, however, there are several competing accounting bodies in that country and the traditional ones have a strong legal orientation. At this stage it is still not clear which of these will emerge as eligible to provide statutory auditors in the context of the Eighth Directive.

A striking features is the high number of qualified accountants in the United Kingdom—a veritable "accountants' mountain". However, a large number of these work in commerce or industry, while those in practice (only 25 per cent of the total) have to audit all limited liability companies.

There are some 600,000 of these in the United Kingdom out of a total of 1,500,000 in the EEC as a whole. In most other EEC countries only the larger limited companies at present fall under mandatory audit requirements, if at all, and some national institutes accept as members only those in public practice.

This situation will change, though, as a result of other EEC legislation which calls for more companies to be audited than can at present be handled by the fairly small number of qualified auditors in most other EEC countries today.

It is interesting to see that while a British accountant can hope to qualify by 25, his German counterpart may have to wait another seven years. The table also shows that practical training is not required in The Netherlands and Italy. Yet, for qualified people without such practical training it would be extremely difficult to start a career in public accounting or to obtain an engagement as statutory auditor.

It will, however, only be a matter of time before this situation is remedied: the mandatory training requirements of the Eighth Directive will bring the two countries concerned into line with all the other member states.

A relevant university degree (generally economics or law-based) is compulsory in five of the member states and of distinct advantage in terms of examination exemptions and/or period of practical training in the others. A university degree is still not mandatory in the United Kingdom though an increasingly large number of accountants do now have one.

Training requirements are evidently another aspect of the Directive and much empahasis is placed on a knowledge of law, including criminal law. This feature has been introduced by the Latin countries, but it is foreign to countries such as Britain and The Netherlands. It tends to some degree to reflect the prevailing thinking, especially in French audit quarters (*Commissaires aux comptes*), that the auditor's responsibility also includes reporting violations of the law committed by clients.

With today's emphasis on mobility of labour, the question of reciprocal recognition of qualifications also comes to the forefront. Only a few years ago strict nationality rules were still being applied to prospective accountants in most member states.

The Directive makes no attempt at liberalizing cross-frontier practice rights. Each country will keep a national register of authorized auditors, all of whom might have been trained under the Directive's requirements, yet will still have to seek special permission from the national authorities of their prospective host country, if they wish to practise outside the country in which they were professionally registered.

The Eighth Directive also addresses itself to other issues such as the auditor's independence, reciprocal authorization arrangements with non-EEC countries, the different legal forms an audit practice can take and the conditions under which an authorized auditor can practise with non-authorized auditors.

The Directive also indicates both the extent and the conditions under which non-authorized auditors can participate in the capital of an audit firm. In some countries—Germany for example—audit firms have as shareholders outside parties such as banks or governments, something quite unknown in, say, the United Kingdom or Belgium.

It will be interesting to see how the various professions develop under the aegis of the Eighth Directive and how they will cope with the expected increase in statutory audit work. One thing is sure: they will try to avoid any attempt to dilute their qualification requirements, endangering the reputation they have built up over many years.

The Eighth Directive is just a first step in the harmonization process of auditing generally. Much has still to be done to eliminate artificial barriers restricting free movement of the profession within the Community and, more important, to harmonize actual audit standards and practices.

Richard Fellows

The author is with the Dusseldorf office of Ernst and Whinney.

HOW QUALIFICATIONS IN THE COMMUNITY COMPARE

	Belgium	Denmark	France	Ireland	Italy	Luxembourg	The Netherlands	United Kingdom	West Germany
Main Qualifications	Reviseur d'entreprise/ Bedrijfsrevisoren	Statuthoriserede revisorer	Expert comptable	Chartered accountant	Dottore commercialista	Expert comptable	Register accountant	Chartered accountant	Wirtschaftsprüfer
Approximate number	250	1,400	8,000 (2)	2,000	14,000	50	4,500	80,300 (4)	3,900
Educational requirements	Relevant degree	Relevant degree	University or business school degree recommended	Degree not compulsory	Relevant degree	Relevant degree	Degree not compulsory	Degree not compulsory with certain exceptions (4).	Relevant degree (5)
Practical training	1-3 years	3-5 years	3 years	3 years with degree, 4 years without	None	3 years	None	3 years with degree, 4 years without	5 years (8)
Average qualifying age	27	30	28	25	26 (3)	28	30	25	32
Other important accountancy qualifications	Expert comptable (1)	Registere revisorer	Commissaire aux Comptes (9)	Certified public accountant	Ragioniere Professionista (7)	None	Staatspraktijk Diploma Accountant-Administrative Consulent	Certified accountant, cost and management accountant	Steuerberater (6)

(1) This qualification is held by approximately 1 800 accountants but is not officially recognized by law. (2) Includes *Comptables agreé*. (3) Average age of competent candidate. (4) Includes English and Scottish Institutes of Chartered Accountants. (5) In exceptional circumstances it is possible to qualify without a university degree, in which case 10 years practical training is necessary. (6) Allows certain exemptions from tax papers in *Wirtschaftsprüfer* examination; *Steuerberater* (tax adviser) is, of course, a separate profession. (7) This qualification is held by approximately 15 000 accountants who must have had two years practical experience before taking written and oral examinations. (8) Specification is five years in business field of which four must have been concerned with auditing. (9) There are approximately 8 000 Commissaires aux Comptes in France.

Source: Ernst & Whinney.

Shift from printing brings its benefits

Industry in the regions

Watford

Watford's printing industry, once dominant enough to earn the town the sobriquet of the printing capital of Europe, has been hard hit during the present recession.

The strength of the Hertfordshire town's two giant print plants, Sun Printers and Odhams, has been undermined by a decade of declining profitability, not to say outright losses, increasingly successful foreign competition and, more recently, by the strength of sterling.

But though they employ only about half as many people as they did 10 years ago, the two companies are still large enough for their problems to send ripples of apprehension throughout the local community.

And problems there have been. Odhams, whose main power base is the range of weekly magazines printed for its parent IPC, lost the *Sunday Telegraph* magazine last November.

Mr Rupert Murdoch's takeover at *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* led to speculation about the continued printing of *The Sunday Times* magazine at Sun Printers. The financial problems of Sun's parent, the British Printing Corporation, raised fears that plant might not get the large share of the printing work on the *TV Times* that it had been promised under a deal announced last year.

Without that contract the future of Sun looked grave and there were added problems over the loss of mail order work to European competition.

Acceptance of the "survival" plan for Sun, drawn up under the watchful scrutiny of BPC's new chief executive, Mr Robert Maxwell, coupled with the eventual clinching of the *TV Times* deal, in which the survival plan played a vital part, has pulled the plant back from the brink.

Brighter future

But it has also meant the loss of more than 400 of the plant's 1,700 or so jobs. Now, however, that BPC has announced that Sun will be part of an autonomous gravure printing group within the corporation, with plans for substantial investment aimed at clawing back millions of pounds worth of work being lost to its competitors, the future looks rather brighter.

Odhams has so far avoided redundancies. The *Sunday Express* magazine is due to start rolling off its presses this week and at least one other big contract could be on the cards. But, with other gravure plants trimming their workforces, Odhams is having to look hard at its competitiveness.

The 2,000-strong workforce has recently been warned that unless it accepts a package of pay and conditions by tomorrow there could be substantial redundancies and a cutback on costs and investment. Union leaders at the plant are recommending the deal's acceptance.

Among the town's 50 or so other printing firms there has been one major casualty. Berec Packaging, which closed with the loss of more than 100 jobs. But, according to Mr Alan Robinson, branch secretary of the National Graphical Association in Watford, the smaller companies have weathered the storm rather better than their larger counterparts.

"The smaller companies are all feeling the pinch now, but most of them seem able to keep ticking over. There have been some redundancies, but they still seem to be able to manage."

The larger companies, he believes, are being affected by the impact of new technology and the strength of the pound, which gives foreign competitors a trading edge. He points out that one of Britain's big printing competitors, Italy, has just devalued the lira.

Because Watford's dependence on the printing industry has been decreasing the effects of recent traumas has been less dramatic than might once have been the case. Other industries, like engineering and electronics, have moved into the town to help spread the range.

But the other industries themselves have felt the effects of the recession. The worst blow fell just a few days before Christmas last year when the Dickinson Robinson Group decided to close its Croxley Mills in Watford with the loss of more than 700 jobs, ending almost 150 years of paper making at the plant.

Jobless level

Other jobs have gone, too, and the number of unemployed this month is slightly over 2,500. But, at 5.3 per cent of the working population, unemployment is only just over half the national average.

The area's biggest employer, Rolls-Royce, with a workforce of 3,400 at its Leavesden factory, is gradually shedding some white collar jobs, but sales of its helicopter engines have remained fairly stable even though cuts in defence spending caused some worries. The management is hopeful of breaking into the lucrative civil aviation market, where helicopter sales are booming.

Another big engineering concern, Scammells—part of BL—has escaped many of the difficulties that have beset its parent company and its rivals in the commercial vehicle industry. The plant had a three-month spell of short time late last year, but its reputation as a specialist truck builder, coupled with two multi-million pounds orders for military vehicles from Jordan and Iraq, has sheltered it from the worst effects of the slump in commercial vehicle sales.

Mr Bob Stewart, manager of the Watford Job Centre, believes that an important factor in the town's fairly low unemployment level is the diversity of industry. "There are only five really big employers and in a town the size of Watford that is very unusual. The rest are smaller units.

"A lot of the smaller firms may have trimmed their workforces a little, but they are still there", he says.

But he points out that while the town's unemployment level might well be the envy of other areas, it is, by Watford's own standards, unprecedentedly high.

Mark Milner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Time to look again at industrial democracy

From Professor Malcolm Warner

Sir, I learn from your columns (March 19) that British companies have gained a new concession from the Legal Affairs Committee of the European Parliament regarding its draft directive on industrial democracy.

The committee has come to an agreement that British companies can have a consultative council of workers, instead of blue collar directors. It had already conceded the right of all employees to vote by secret ballot.

Is it vital that we now reopen public debate on the issue? There is certainly evidence that a possible alignment of political parties might lead to statutory legislation in this regard.

European countries already boast a wide and fascinating spectrum of *de jure* as well as *de facto* forms of employee participation, with a wide range of institutional arrangements which have developed over the last three decades at least. By law, firms must have developed over the last three decades at least. By law, firms must have some form of workers' council, albeit consultative, in nearly all these economies; many also stipulate employees' representatives on the supervisory (non-executive) boards of their companies. For example, the Federal Republic of Germany (arguably the *most* capitalist of the EEC economies) statutorily requires virtually half the seats on these top boards to go to employees' candidates, at least in the larger companies, backing up the mandatory works councils at plant level.

According to a recent study by European colleagues, the value of workers having a greater say in how their firm is run is precisely that it may positively help organizational efficiency: "If employee participation is an integral part of the management strategy of the development or survival of the enterprise as a whole, we would expect mutual reinforcement" (IDE Group, *Industrial Democracy in Europe*, Oxford University Press, 1981, p 334). This study closely looked at 134 firms and carried out over 8,000 individual interviews, across twelve European countries (including Yugoslavia and Israel).

An average of most workers interviewed (with three exceptions, France, Italy and Israel, where the figure was around 60 per cent) of 70 per cent believed that indirect participation via their representatives helps to make decisions taken in the firm "more acceptable" and hence "a positive effect on organizational efficiency". This seems a convincing finding and most European managers do seem to cope with and adapt to their national system of participation whatever the extent of worker involvement may be.

Surely, further discussion concerning the variety of schemes available for worker participation would be helpful, particularly given the pace of technological change and the need to involve employees in such developments.

A recent opinion poll (in early February this year) suggested that of the policies considered most important by potential supporters of the then proposed new Centre alignment in British politics more industrial democracy came next to the top in importance. The time is surelp ripe to once again open up the debate.

Yours sincerely,
MALCOLM WARNER,
The Henley Doctoral Programme,
The Administrative Staff College,
Greenlands,
Henley-on-Thames,
Oxfrdshire RC9 3AU.

Banks and the health of the economy

From Mr Charles A. Weighbridge

Sir, As far as I know nobody has attempted to trace the relationship between the success or lack of it of any economy and the number and choice of financial institutions which serve it.

In Britain we have the most heavily concentrated banking system and the fewest number of commercial banks of any country in the West. The state of the economy requires little comment.

Whatever the connexion no one can have failed to notice the clearing banks in Britain exercising their financial *droit de seigneur* over industry. Nor can one have failed to notice that British banking is the most profitable in the world at a time when commerce and industry is sliding into extinction.

Against this background Britain needs a banking merger about as much as the Sahara needs a really good drought. If the Lonrho/House of Fraser takeover is to be referred to the Monopolies Commission on the ground of "size" or some such obscure pretext then how about Standard Chartered Banks bid for the Royal Bank of Scotland Group?

Yours faithfully,
C. WEIGHBRIDGE,
27 Chatsworth Road,
Ealing,
London W5.
March 24.

Revenue form-filling

From Mr D. B. Harper

Sir, For some years the small businessman who calculates his wages and PAYE etc. manually has been provided with P.11 cards on which to make the entries and which he has returned to the Inspector of Taxes with a summary form (P.35) at the end of the year. I have recently received from the Inland Revenue some documents entitled "Deductions Working Sheet P.11 (New)". There appears to be no significant difference in the layout of the document although it is slightly larger. However, the card which is handled throughout the year is now replaced by this flimsy sheet which I suspect will become dog-eared over 52 weeks of use. Moreover, we are instructed on the bottom of the form that it must be kept "for not less than three years after the end of the year to which it relates, or longer if directed".

I have written to the Inspector of Taxes asking him under what piece of legislation we are now to carry out their filing as well as thei rtax collecting, but to date have had no reply.

What is, of course, irritating for people such as myself is that we are expected to make changes in our own systems with no explanation or justification from the Inland Revenue; and, quite clearly, although it may be possible that they are making some savings, it must be recognized that any change in their documentation will have had some cost which may or may not have been taken into account.

Perhaps through the medium of your column we may ask for some explanation.

D. B. HARPER,
Principal,
Eaton House School,
3 & 5 Eaton Gate,
Eaton Square,
London, S.W.1.

Dividends from Nigeria

From Miss Joanna Dickson

Sir, I am grateful you published the letter from Mr F. W. A. Spicer on the subject of "Dividends returns from Nigeria" (March 23), regarding Nigerian Cement Company. It is to be hoped that many other shareholders will get in touch with Mr Spicer, at his request.

Dividends have not been paid since 1966, and not 1975, as you printed.

It may be of added interest to note that Zimbabwe has taken the honourable action to outside investors, by releasing funds, held in blocked accounts, in the form of bonds issues.

Their internal conflict has only recently finished and they are very much in need of outside help.

Nigeria's internal conflict finished more than a decade ago and they are in a far better position to do what is right to outside investors who believed in Nigeria during the fifties.

Yours faithfully,
JOANNA DICKSON,
1 The Pleasance,
Kinsbourne Green,
Harpenden,
Hertfordshire AL5 3NA.

Cold water washing

From Mr G. F. H. Cullen

Sir, I noted with interest Mrs Wilson's letter (March 20) regarding cold water clothes' washing powder.

Mrs Wilson gives an account of her efforts to persuade a major United Kingdom company to manufacture such a detergent in this country following her use of such a detergent in the United States. She adds that there were no plans to market such a product in the United Kingdom. However, Mrs Wilson might be interested to learn that there is already a cold water washing powder on the market in this country. This is a product called "S.A.8 plus" made by Amway and marketed by Amway distributors to customers in their homes. This product is also biodegradable and contains a water softener and a corrosion inhibitor. What it *doesn't* contain is fillers which bulk out British detergents and require hot water to perform satisfactorily. Since 70 per cent of the cost of a wash it attributable to the energy cost of heating the water to perform a hot wash, it can be seen that cold water washing powders are a substantial financial benefit to users.

G. F. H. CULLEN,
154 Fronks Road,
Dovercourt,
Essex, CO12 4EF.

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ITOR

Banks and the health of the economy

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

As Trusthouse takes the Savoy to court...

r Charles Forte's attack on The Savoy ould go into the courts shortly. The egistrar will be asked to decide whether rusthouse Forte's Scheme of Arrangement fer under Section 206 of the Companies ct (the first time this has been pursued in contested bid) can go forward.

If so Trusthouse will be able to call parate meetings of the "A" and heavy-oting "B" shareholders to puts its terms fore them. The outcome of a meeting of B" shareholders is a foregone conclusion, is through this capital that the board of e Savoy controls the company. The "A" areholders, with only a tenth of a vote r each share, can, as Trusthouse has entified, change that. If 75 per cent of the A" shares are cast for Trusthouse it will ave gained 51 per cent of the Savoy votes nd victory for its £58m bid.

But this assumes first that the court lows Trusthouse to call separate meetings n idea which the Savoy has termed fundamentally objectionable" in that all archolders are not being asked to decide e fate of their company (a point which ould be stood on its head)—and, second, hat the minute agreement was given by the ourt another bidder does not step in and tempt to do what Trusthouse is doing, ough at a rather greater price.

Given that the Savoy has yet to produce 1980 figures and because the book value its assets at only £18m is clearly under-ated, it is difficult to assess the fairness Trusthouse's terms.

At this point they appear generous and rusthouse is concentrating attack on the ge income advantage of accepting its ffer. The Savoy will have difficulty answer-g since its present lossmaking position means that it will have to pay a 1980 ividend from reserves. It is not difficult, owever, to imagine the Savoy carrying out revaluation of its properties—including avoy itself, Claridges, the Berkeley and he Connaught—and showing that even on going-concern basis their value is not far ifferent from that of Trusthouse's present rms. Then of course it will argue that ere should be a substantial premium for oodwill despite the present parlous trad-g position of the Savoy.

Nevertheless, Trusthouse is not going to ive up easily on this occasion and it has e backing of the Kuwait Investment ffice with 35 per cent of the "A" capital. has already indicated that if the court isallows its Scheme bid it may follow rough with a general offer. It appears to e in the mood to carry out that threat if ecessary.

Thus, Savoy shareholders are under-inned for the moment at 182p. But there a danger along the way. If Trusthouse ails to break open the Savoy now, then no ne can without the approval of the board. this bid (or a counter offer) fails the hares, stripped of the "bid content" hich has been in the Savoy price for so any years, would fall dramatically.

Corporate bonds

Signs of life

veryone is willing the corporate bond arket back into life. But still no one is repared to take the plunge into what used be one of the traditional ways of raising ng-term capital for industry until hair-ising interest rates scared off borrowers.

That could change soon. Several corporate easurers are eyeing the market closely. To judge by the success of Leeds' £50m sue last week and the reopening of the erling bulldog market, there seems to be ready institutional appetite for diversify-g long-term fixed interest portfolios pro-ded the terms are right.

It is just possible to envisage a situation ere there is a shortage of long-term struments if the Government gets on top its borrowing and stops other potential rrowers being crowded out.

But the problem with the corporate bond arket over the last few years of inactivity s rarely been one of a shortage of vestors but the reluctance of borrowers come forward on terms that could com-te with what the authorities were offer-g in the gilt-edged market.

Whatever the arguments of corporate ance purists that after tax relief on terest a case can always be made for ving that debt is in fact cheaper than uity, companies have been unwilling to themselves into the balance sheet or income gearing that long-term borrowing at high interest rates would mean. Rights issues have tended to look more attractive.

Whenever interest rates have started to fall, as they did three years ago, companies have shied away from reopening the corporate bond market because bank borrowing has looked relatively cheaper.

Indeed, the reorientation of the clearing banks away from overdraft to medium-term lending, which is both more flexible and less expensive to arrange, has taken some of the necessity out of the corporate bond market.

One distinct change in recent months has been the growing interest the authorities have been showing in the revival of the market.

The authorities are also thought to have tinkered with the idea of making the corporate bond market more attractive through tax concessions or perhaps even subsidies, although this seems to have fallen down because of the abuses it may lead to.

The new index-linked gilt, which by being restricted to gross funds overcomes any tax problems that may arise if the issue is construed as artificially converting income into capital, opens up a possible avenue for a similar issue in the corporate bond market as indeed was recommended in the Wilson report for industrial debentures so long as the open-ended liability that would involve could be solved. Certainly the Treasury could not turn a deaf ear to such a proposal easily.

Removal of stamp duty on non-convertible issues has reduced the cost of corporate bond issues although there is still a feeling that this is a relatively expensive way of raising money even though the Stock Exchange usually consents to a placing rather than the paraphernalia of an offer for sale. Conventional wisdom in the City remains that gilt yields will have to drop another point or so to encourage corporate borrowers in a big way and companies may well test the water with shorter, say 5-10 year, issues. But the chances of a revival are now higher than at any time over the last five years.

It remains to be seen just how restrictive the conditions attaching to new issues, which have caused plenty of headaches for financially strapped companies, will be this time round and whether borrowers will be able to tuck in prepayment rights to avoid committing themselves so far ahead.

● *Now that the Monopolies Commission has given qualified permission to S. & W. Berisford to proceed with a fresh bid for British Sugar Corporation, possibly this week, only one other major obstacle lies in Berisford's path: is BSC worth the likely price?*

The figure being bandied around is 330p a share, which would value BSC at £200m, although Berisford already holds 10 per cent of BSC. There is no question that Berisford can fund this in cash, shares or some combination of the two. But what is the opportunity cost? Looking at BSC's earnings, could Berisford do better with its money over the next few years?

BSC could well raise profits in the current financial year, which ends in September, from £34m to about £43m. Contingent upon the beet crop, currency movements, and the EEC's annual farm review, which sets agricultural prices, £50m in 1981-82 is possible.

On the current share price of 290p, BSC would yield 10 per cent this year, depending on assumptions about dividends, with earnings per share of around 34p. Asset values are a bit above £4 a share, but since sugar refineries can be used for little else, assets are valuable to Berisford only in so far as they make its balance sheet of around £90m appear more solid. The main attraction of BSC must be its earnings.

Of the £180m possible cost, some £47m will have to be paid to the Government in cash for its 24 per cent stake since it is unlikely the Ministry of Agriculture will want Berisford shares, and in any case the Government is committed to selling the stake. So allowing for part of the settlement being made in shares, Berisford may have to find about £100m in cash at an annual interest cost of around £15m.

But one of BSC's attractions is that it will hardly pay tax for the next couple of years if not longer because of a heavy capital spending programme. The pretax profit is therefore effectively the net, and so the rate at which Berisford would cover the purchase cost is fast. BSC could pay for itself in five years.

Frances Williams

A hard road back to full employment

Economists divide themselves into two camps—the deeply pessimistic and the despairing—when it comes to forecasts of unemployment over the next ten years or so.

The pessimistic, who include such supporters of the present Government's economic strategy as the London Business School's Centre for Economic Forecasting, see unemployment well above two million for the foreseeable future. The despairing, most of whom have little confidence in government policy, expect unemployment to rise well beyond three million and to stay at those chastening heights indefinitely in the absence of a major reversal of policy.

Even with such a reversal the outlook for unemployment remains grim. Must we then abandon all hope of achieving low unemployment levels throughout the 1980s or beyond?

For more than three decades after the end of the Second World War governments shared the view that society had a prime—some would argue paramount—duty to provide jobs for all its citizens who wished to work. This consensus persisted even when unemployment was deliberately being created as a weapon in the authorities' largely unsuccessful struggle to combat inflation.

But it broke down completely in 1979 with the election of a Conservative Government committed to monetarist economic policies, which denied that governments could influence unemployment levels over the long term. The defeat of inflation supplanted full employment as the overriding objective of policy.

Monetarists believe that there is a "natural rate" of unemployment in the economy, defined as the rate compatible with a constant inflation rate. What that constant inflation rate is, depends on the growth in the money supply.

The natural unemployment rate at any time is determined by structural features of the economy and, more especially, by the labour market, including the level of unemployment benefit relative to incomes in work, workers' ability to move to where the jobs are (which in turn depends on conditions in the housing market) and willingness to accept lower pay rates to increase job prospects.

In a paper for the Commons Treasury and Civil Service Select Committee published last Wednesday the Treasury put the present natural rate of unemployment at about 5 per cent of the workforce, equivalent to nearly 1¼ million unemployed adults. This is much higher than previous estimates in the mid-1970s which put the rate at 500,000 to 700,000 unemployed.

But it may well be an underestimate. Dr Alan Budd of the London Business School, for example, believes that the rate may lie somewhere between 1½ and 2 million.

On the monetarist view, unemployment above the natural rate means that inflation will start to slow down as workers accept lower pay settlements and "price themselves into work". This process will also bring unemployment down gradually towards the natural rate. Unemployment below the natural rate produces steadily accelerating inflation and unemployment rises as workers "price themselves out of work".

So it is no good governments trying to cut unemployment by boosting demand in the economy artificially. This may cut unemployment in the short run, but in the longer term (two to three years or more) injections of cash into the system simply add to inflation, while unemployment returns inexorably to the same levels as before.

Governments can, of course, try to reduce the natural rate of unemployment by tackling the structural conditions which determine it—work incentives, housing reform or trade union power. This the present administration has attempted to do, so far with notable lack of success.

Postwar experience does not, however, give much support to the "natural rate" hypothesis. It suggests, on the contrary, that boosts to demand have a permanent effect on employment, though at some cost in terms of higher inflation and a worse balance of payments.

A £1,000m cut in income tax, for example, will boost national output by about ½ per cent and create 100,000 to 150,000 extra jobs within two or three years. This would knock rather fewer than 100,000 off registered unemployment (less than the expected growth in the labour force over the next few years) and add about half a percentage point to the annual inflation rate.

The surges in unemployment over the past 15 years or so—in 1967, 1971, 1975-76 and 1980-81—have all resulted from deflationary policies pursued by governments which have deliberately chosen to put inflation or balance of payments objectives before the provision of employment.

But to bring unemployment in 1984 down from forecast levels (3½ million or more) to present figures (2.3 million in March, 1981), let alone to produce a fall below two million, would require the creation of 500,000 jobs a year between now and then, with a fiscal stimulus of some £5,000m to £6,000m each year. An increase in employment on that scale has not been achieved in this country since demobilization. To bring unemployment down below one million, which many people would say is still too high, would at more modest rates of job creation take at least 10 years.

Nor are the omens propitious for substantially increasing industrial employment over the next few years. World trade is expected to grow fairly slowly, depressing prospects for exports. And many people believe that the response of employment to changes in output may become increasingly sluggish as a result of improvements in productivity.

If so, only enormous growth in the service industries, including public employment, could provide the extra jobs necessary to get unemployment down.

Also, surveys by the Confederation of British Industry and other evidence suggest that the present recession may have resulted in some permanent elimination of industrial capacity. So any expansion in demand could run into bottlenecks and shortages more quickly than in previous upturns. Further stimulus would then simply exacerbate inflation and suck in imports rather than give rise to more jobs in domestic industries.

Of course, it is possible to devise combinations of measures which are rather more efficient in creating jobs than income tax cuts (which lead to substantial leakages through extra savings and imports), such as more public spending, or which minimize some of the side-effects, such as incomes policies. And the creation of 200,000 new jobs a year—enough to start unemployment falling slowly—through sustained fiscal expansion over the next decade could be achieved without causing the economy to overheat unduly.

But it is foolish to pretend that the costs will be negligible. The question is: is the price worth paying to avoid the continuing sacrifice of lives blighted by unemployment? Surveys of public opinion suggest that the majority of people in this country now believe that it is.

A fresh initiative is being taken to change attitudes, Lucy Hodges reports

Women's continuing struggle for equality

British employers' attitudes have changed little where women are concerned. They employ large numbers of them, but mainly in low status, low paid jobs—as secretaries, clerks, cleaners or factory assembly hands.

Despite the passing of two Acts designed to change this, and even though increasing numbers of women go out to work, things are not getting much better. In some ways they are becoming worse.

The gap between women and men's pay has widened and the Equal Pay Act cannot be invoked unless a woman can find a man doing similar work with whom to compare herself. This is impossible for large numbers of women in exclusively female jobs.

The top people in most spheres are still mainly men. In science, engineering and technology women are in only 7.8 per cent of managerial and 6.8 per cent of professional jobs. In contrast, they account for 75 per cent of those doing work of a clerical type.

What can be done about this? Some answers may emerge at a conference on "Positive Action for Women" which opens in London next Monday. Organized by the National Council for Civil Liberties and financed by the German Marshall Fund and the Ford Foundation, it will explore the concept of "positive action", an idea which is already accepted in the United States where it goes by the name of "affirmative action".

There is much confusion in Britain about what it means, but positive action is a flexible term used to cover a package of steps which employers can take voluntarily to ensure that women are given full opportunities at work—to gain promotion and generally use their talents to the full. It covers everything from policies to enable working mothers to work the hours that suit them to special training schemes for women to get into jobs for which they lack the qualifications.

British employers may well — and probably will — argue that this does not make commercial sense, but the Americans next week will say the opposite. Mrs Joan Showalter, a vice-president of Columbia Broadcasting Service (CBS), who is also its personnel director, maintains that positive action is good business.



GLC Photograph Library

Women making aircraft parts at a Chelsea works during the First World War: the war introduced women to a wide range of new roles.

She will tell the conference about events at CBS since 1973, when, without prompting from the government or litigants, it decided to become what is known in the jargon as an "equal opportunity employer". Seven years ago women accounted for only 18 per cent of the managerial and executive positions at CBS: now they make up 30 per cent.

It has had to be paid for (the company spends $1.5m [about £650,000] a year on career training for women and minorities), but Mrs Showalter argues that it is worth every cent because the available talent is no longer wasted. "CBS is a stronger company today than seven years ago because of the initiatives taken on behalf of women", she says.

The exercise began when senior executives met an ad-hoc committee of CBS women who wanted change. Specifically, they asked for all job vacancies to be opened up to women, for a women's advisory council which would meet regularly with senior management and for career counselling and special career training seminars. They also wanted monitoring of the jobs done by women at CBS and of the women's progress.

All these demands were met —and more. There is now a Director of Women's Programmes and the predominantly male management has special "sensitizing" briefings on how to manage women and blacks.

This "discrimination" in favour of women may sound strange to British ears—even illegal under the Sex Discrimination Act, 1975, but it is certainly not so. What is illegal under the Act is to discriminate in favour of women and against men *at the point of selection*. Employers must choose the best candidate for the job, but there is nothing to stop them encouraging women to apply for jobs and holding special training sessions for them.

All this is spelt out in a book* to be published tomorrow to coincide with the conference. In it Sadie Robarts, a barrister, explains why such policies are needed, what companies have done in Britain and how things could be improved.

The book favours positive action through collective bargaining between unions and management rather than by legislation and legal action, as has been mainly the experience, CBS not withstanding, in the United States. In Sweden, which did not even have a Sex Discrimination Act until last year, unions and management have achieved a lot together and this would probably fit in better with Britain's flexible and compromising ways than the United States model.

In America some of the biggest battles were fought through the courts. An important victory was won against the Bank of America in the early 1970s by a group of women acting on behalf of all their female bank colleagues (this is known as a class action and is not possible here).

Some of the 64,000 women were given back pay, but more important was the setting up of four trust funds to train women for promotion. The bank agreed to a five-year plan of action, which included setting goals for the number of women to be in different grades by a certain date.

The issue of goals or targets or quotas is tricky and induces fierce argument. Quotas are illegal in this country, as they are now in the United States.

But there is no reason why targets cannot be set, as Rank Xerox has theoretically done in its equal employment opportunity policy introduced five years ago.

The policy says that each unit will be asked to set its own targets and maintain clear records of progress achieved.

Is this happening? Rank Xerox sounded a little thrown when asked. The international headquarters in London said that it did not monitor what its individual units were doing.

After some inquiry Mr Neil Ashworth of Rank Xerox UK, said that there was targeting or monitoring only among sales people, but this did not necessarily have anything to do with the equal opportunity policy. "We wanted to broaden the range of people in the sales force," he said.

The target for women is 20 per cent of new recruits every year. At present women constitute 12.2 per cent of the sales force and last month 17.7 per cent of new recruits were women. Over the past five years there has been a big increase in the number of women in middle to senior management—from one out of 160 to 12 out of 160.

If Rank Xerox can achieve this much without bothering about company policy, how much better could it do if it did?

**Positive Action for Women*, by Sadie Robarts; £2 from the National Council for Civil Liberties.

Business Diary profile: British fashion's princely opportunity

One of the many British industries ich could be lifted out of a slump the coming Royal Wedding is shion. Quite apart from the high eet flurry in "Something for the casion, you know" and a welter of k-alike Lady Di wedding dresses, upturn in floppy hats and a new mand for matching shoes and hand-gs, the wedding makes London ain a plausible centre of style.

This week, London Fashion Week, capital plays host to some very portant persons, the many inter-ional buyers. And not a moment soon.

While the deficit between imports d exports of all types of clothing in United Kingdom fell by £22m to 1m between 1979 and 1980, what ects this seat-of-the pants occupa-n is the level of our national fidence.

Too much has been made of the sures and failures on the British hion scene in the past year and not ough of the reasons. Among names ich were in the headlines are two Yuki and John Bates—which anks to new, foreign backers have unced back just before our crucial ests arrive this week.

The very fact that two such overtly ccessful names—ripe for the licen-g market and for big investment their very different personalities d styles—had fallen on hard times lls us much about the state of the itish industry. John Bates had eated in Jean Varon a consistently etty, flattering range—old shioned words maybe, but they sell othes—produced always to high standards and well priced. Bates's own-label couture range gave the added spice and gloss to his glamorous image, the cream which sells the milk.

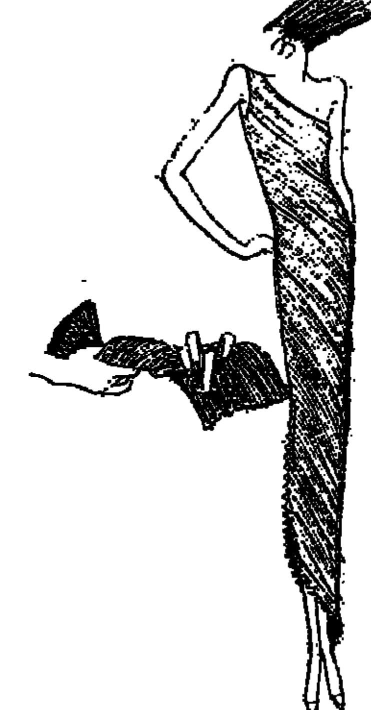
Unusually, Bates started with the rough and tumble of ready-to-wear, establishing a formidable name in a market very well supplied from England—evening wear. Both his natural inclination for individual recognition and the need for a Name to promote volume merchandise against fierce competition led to the establishment of the couture range, which some argue proved too much of a drain on the designer and the solid base of the Varon range.

Yuki suffered sporadic halts in manufacture and from a sense (to many) of charming, very English but eventually disastrous amateurism. After nearly 10 years of hard work he remains a poor man while others have copied his ideas to their great benefit.

Both ventures collapsed last year, but are now back, both designers ecstatic about how obliging they find manufacturers in India, Hongkong and Japan, in supplying superb fabrics, either natural or synthetic.

They are only too pleased to supply printing, pleating, special effects, devotion to detail and interest in the product, which get the designer lionized in Paris or Italy and make our surly defensive home trade as un-chic as last year's way to tie a scarf.

Yuki, now safe in the arms of Tokyo Blouse has produced a ravishing collection in materials completely new to me which meet the demands of today's big spending fashion customer—beauty, originality, and ease.



What it takes if British fashion is to be uncrushable: Yuki's uncrushable evening dress in Silmi satin, which will be shown in London tomorrow.

Tokyo Blouse is a privately owned company of thirty years standing which has eight divisions and manufactures in Japan. It will retain all marketing rights to Yuki's name in evening and cocktail wear and formal day wear for Japan, Australia and the United States while the sales for Europe will be handled from London, as will be the new, small couture range and the eight quite separate licensing arrangements already under way for Yuki. These range from ties and handkerchiefs to luggage.

John Bates, with an exceptionally wearable group of pure silks, is signed up with the Esal Group, a multinational organization, privately owned and run by Indian nationals based in England. He, too, retains an independent small couture range made in England.

The future of the fashion and textile industries, which may be indivisible in this country, resides in "commitment"—commitment from the Government to support an industry which sometimes appears to warrant little more than giggles in Whitehall. The Government should intervene with the establishment of an animal similar to the Arts Council —with financial teeth and a long leash, thereby recognizing fashion design as one of the arts, if a minor one.

Further, it should intervene by shifting certain colleges with design education facilities from the hands of the Department of Education into those of the Department of Industry. The Council for National Academic Awards should pause before approving any further BA honours courses in fashion or textile design, for what is needed is Indians as well as chiefs.

In other words, to be a technician, however brilliant, should no longer mean being consigned to a limbo of sadness and resentment.

There must be an end to the squabbles and overlapping between promoters of fashion exhibitions. They waste money and erode good will.

Incentives should be provided for the battered textile industry to work with designers in producing short, experimental runs of cloth.

To sell competitively in the modern market we need either to be very price-competitive and technically advanced or to offer unique design in an increasingly flooded market. If talent is wedded to manufacturing capacity, there is no reason why we should not manage to make what the United States calls "Needs and Wants".

"Needs" are obvious—the clothes people have in their cupboard—and they are supplied in the United States usually in any size anyone cares to contemplate and in an extremely and sensibly limited range of style and colour. There is depth not range. "Wants" are the irresistible clothes that people covet.

The English equivalent might be called Mass and Musts and we should be gearing up to provide both. Above all, we must seize the opportunity of the Royal Wedding to capitalize on our undoubted fashion talent. It is an opportunity such as we failed to grasp in the 1960s when suddenly we "swung", got the world over to buy our young, funny fashion and then failed with deliveries. An opportunity like this is unlikely to recur for a long time to come.

NCC to discuss offer terms with UNC

By Our Financial Staff

Mr Graham Ferguson Lacey, chairman and chief executive of NCC Energy, flies to New York today to resume talks with directors of the American UNC Resources group, which three weeks ago he said had approached him with a view to making an offer.

Discussions will centre on terms of any offer, which have been rumoured to be between 150p and 160p a share. NCC shares were suspended by the company on Friday at 142p, valuing the energy group at about £40m.

The halt to dealings was called not on any development with NCC, but because talks had begun with the world's largest pattern maker, Simplicity, to "actively explore and work towards a merger".

NCC plans to buy 5.5 per cent of Simplicity at $13 a share for the equivalent of £3.6m. New York sources are suggesting that NCC has a further option to acquire more shares at the same price, spending the equivalent of £7.7m on a total stake of 10.011 per cent.

It is not yet clear how the announced deal will be financed, but unconfirmed reports indicate that NCC, 40 per cent owned by Mr Ferguson Lacey, has sold some more shares in the Bermuda-based oil exploration company Weeks Petroleum, in which NCC still has a 2.5 per cent stake. At Weeks's closing price before the weekend, the stake was valued at £5.1m. Last November, NCC Energy reduced its 7.5 per cent stake in Weeks by 5 per cent at a price of 480p, raising about £9.6m.

The deal with Simplicity, which has no oil, gas or mining interests, will mean that Mr Ferguson Lacey and Mr H. Gittes, newly appointed president of NCC Energy, will join Simplicity's board. The chairman and one other director of Simplicity will join the board of NCC.

Simplicity is valued on the New York Stock Exchange at $135m. Pre-tax profits for the year to last January were $18.5m. It has assets of around $146m, no debt and in excess of $85m cash.

Sturla-First Guernsey deal

By Our Financial Staff

Consumer finance group Sturla Holdings has concluded the negotiations it announced in January with First Guernsey Securities Trust. The result is an agreed bid worth about £1.4m for First Guernsey.

The bid is equivalent to 120 per cent of net assets and will be in ordinary shares at a price to be fixed at the latest practicable date before the posting of the offer. It will be underwritten in cash.

The offer is conditional on the approval of Sturla shareholders for the increase in capital.

Its precise value cannot yet be calculated but is estimated at 233p a share.

Once the offer goes through some of First Guernsey's assets will be realized to help Sturla with its leasing business and with further acquisitions in the financial services field or in related activities.

First Guernsey has now asked the Stock Exchange to relist its shares. It has also announced figures, which show a pretax profit for 1980 of £33,302 against £31,255 the year before. Net asset value was given as 225p.

Choice of sterling for gold futures defended

By Michael Prest
Commodities Correspondent

Despite the criticism from some quarters that greeted the decision to denominate the proposed gold futures contract in sterling, the market's formation committee reiterated at its meeting last Friday that the pound was the right currency.

The committee's argument is that sterling will provide the biggest market. It is a leading currency in which many investors do business. Some investors in the existing gold markets, which use dollars, switch their deals into sterling.

The committee also believes that local currency gold contracts have succeeded around the world whereas dollar ones have worked only in America. A sterling contract, moreover, will provide a different market with significant arbitrage opportunities.

While the committee does not feel that a dollar market would flop in London, it has been influenced as well by the widespread use of the London Metal Exchange's sterling contracts. Indeed, it was at the suggestion of an LME member that the London Gold Market, which had considered opening its own dollar futures market, looked again at the currency question.

Unless the committee's reaffirmation of its decision meets strong opposition the two principal steps to opening the market are settling the contract details and reaching agreement with the International Commodities Clearing House, which is most likely to handle the contracts.

Until the ownership of the ICCH is sorted out there can be little progress. But unless there are unexpected delays it is still possible that the market will start trading in June.

Marked upturn expected for Ocean Transport

This week

Ladbroke this week announces its first set of annual profits since the group sold off its casino interests. Other groups reporting full-year figures this week include Ocean Transport & Trading, Reckitt & Colman and Babcock International.

On the economic front, the City will have its first chance since the Budget of assessing the public sector borrowing requirement when the Bank of England releases the fourth quarter figures tomorrow along with the money supply.

Later today, the CBI releases its monthly trends survey for March along with the quarterly analysis of bank advances from the Bank of England.

On Wednesday the Department of Energy announces its advance energy statistics for February followed on Thursday by the United Kingdom official reserves for March from the Treasury and capital issues and redemptions during March from the Bank of England.

Finally on Friday, the Department of the Environment releases figures for housing starts and completions for February.

Full-year figures from Ocean Transport & Trading today should make impressive reading with most analysts going for between £28m and £35m compared with last year's target of £16m. As a result most are expecting a 10 per cent increase in the final dividend, which in 1979 stood at 6.57p gross.

The recent strength in bulk freight rates should have helped and the group ought to have done well from the upturn in the freight market generally.

Its interests in the United States will also show a marked improvement with the group importing large amounts of coal from that part of the world.

Overseas Containers will have maintained its upward trend, making another valuable contribution to profits, and trading in Nigeria is reported to be going according to plan.

The continued strength of sterling has posed several large headaches for Reckitt & Colman the food and household goods giant. Pretax profits on Wednesday are likely to be down from £52m to between £45m and £49m. At the interim stage profits before tax fell to £22.7m from £25.2m after continued destocking in the United Kingdom grocery trade.

But it was the high level of sterling last year that most upset the group with its overseas trade accounting for 80 per cent of sales.

In spite of the problems the group is expected to maintain the dividend which last year grew to 7.14p gross.

Babcock International's full-year statement is likely to make depressing reading with estimates ranging from £10m to £18m compared with £32m last time. Nevertheless, with the interim dividend maintained analysts are not expecting any reduction in the final payment of 5.14p gross.

The group had to contend with not only the recession in the United Kingdom engineering industry but also a severe downturn in activity in its United States operations, which last year accounted for more than 50 per cent of profits.

Some recovery is expected overall in 1981 but the balance sheet remains weak and extra cash may be called for at some point.

While full-year profits from Ladbroke on Thursday will show a fall from £49m, to between £35m and £40m, the market is likely to be more than pleased. With its casino interests now well out of the way the group has wasted no time in investing the money gained from its casino sales into other profitable sectors of the leisure industry.

Ladbroke now ranks as Britain's fifth largest hotelier and the profit contribution this time should be well up on last year's £7m. Betting has had another successful season owing to the stable weather and should also produce another record contribution.

The group's property interests are now valued at more than £100m and are likely to make a final contribution this time around of £5m. Further improved contributions can also be expected from its remaining interests, including social clubs, machine hire, holidays and retail Hi-Fi.

A total dividend payout of 19.3p gross can be expected, compared with 16.78p last time.

TODAY: Interims: Blue Bird Confectionery, Emess Lighting, Newman-Tonks Group, and Scottish Cities Investment Trust. Finals: Arncliffe Holdings, Charterhouse Group, Energy Finance & General Trust, Federated Land, Freemans (London SW9), Low and Bonar, Ocean Transport & Trading, and H. & J. Quick.

TOMORROW: Interims: Amalgamated Estates, Burndene Investments, Charterhall, Lake & Elliot, and Trident Television. Finals: American Tr... Appleyard Group, Booker M... Connell, Bunzl Pulp & Pap... Cape Industries, Dufay Bi... mastic, F.C. Finance, and L... Land and Cfrex.

WEDNESDAY: Interims: N... announced. Finals: Babc... International, Guardian Ro... Exchange Insurance, Hilt... Footwear, Legal & Gene... MacFarlane Group (Clansm... Molins, Phicom, Phoenix As... ance, Reckitt & Colman, Spi... Sarco Engineering, Sun A... ance & London Insurance, ... Weir Group.

THURSDAY: Interims: ... gess Products, and City of L... don Brewery & Investm... Trust (third quarter). Fina... Arcolectric, Bridons, Brunt... (Musselburgh), Carpets In... national, Carron Co (Holdin... Grampian Holdings, House... Lerose, Ladbroke Group, M... nolia Group (Mouldings), ... Morrison Supermarkets, ... ambe, Queens Moat Hou... and Austin Reed Group.

FRIDAY: Interims: Ra... Textiles, and W. A. Ty... Finals: Charles Early ... Marriott (Witney), Wm Ja... Martin-lack, North British C... dian Investments, L. Ryan, S... tish Television, Sharon a... Tate of Leeds, and E. U... and Sons.

'Broker barons' prepare for Lloyd's battle

Briefing

For the second time in just over a decade Britain's biggest insurance brokers, the so-called "broker barons", are preparing to do battle to retain control of their lucrative underwriting interests in the Lloyd's insurance market.

It is a battle that few doubt they will win in the end even, though the brokers will be flying in the face of recommendations emerging from the two most prestigious and far-reaching inquiries into Lloyd's affairs since the war.

First in 1970, the Cromer Report came to the view that "a substantial body of opinion at Lloyd's believes that broker control is undesirable and should be discouraged, if not brought to an end. There is a conflict of interest which cannot be ignored". Although wide-ranging discussions followed, the Cromer Report disappeared virtually without trace.

Then last May a report by a working party under former High Court Judge, Sir Henry Fisher, commissioned in the wake of a series of damaging scandals at Lloyd's, concluded that potential and even "known" abuses were made possible by close links that existed between brokers and underwriters.

A broker ferrying business to the market could, for example, put pressure on an underwriting syndicate under his control to write business at lower than prudent rates. Conversely, he could act against the interest of his client by placing business with his own syndicate when better rates were available elsewhere.

Sir Henry's committee, as part of its wide-ranging suggestions for improvements in self-regulation in the market, urged that within a five-year time period all brokers should be forced to divest themselves of underwriting interests.

Most of Sir Henry's proposals have since been embodied in a Bill, designed to tighten up Lloyd's archaic regulatory and disciplinary mechanisms which had a successful second-reading in the Commons, last week.

But proposals on divestment are conspicuously absent.

The existing Lloyd's committee has in fact given as assurance that the issue will not be allowed to fall away as it did after Cromer, but it already seems likely that an eventual decision will drop well short of divestment.

The reason in part is that the 20,000 people who put up security to back insurances written in the market need the brokers as much as the brokers need Lloyd's.

The eight largest Lloyd's brokers, most of them publicly quoted groups, provide around three-fifths of the market's £2,000m a year premium income. These same firms own or partially own the managing agencies which in turn control almost half the market's underwriting capacity. Commission earnings from Lloyd's underwriting activities account for more than 5 per cent of the brokers' total earnings and up to 25 per cent in some cases.

But to the firms involved there is more at stake than these profits. Their very involvement at the underwriting end of Lloyd's gives them a cachet in world insurance markets which has in recent years put them head and shoulders above most overseas operators.

It is an involvement they do not intend to surrender lightly. Mr Kenneth Grob, for example, outspoken chief of Alexander Howden, which last year made around a quarter of its £20m profits at Lloyd's, spelt out his views on divestment loud and clear last week.

"The whole thing is so incredibly stupid that only Lloyd's could do it," he said. "By God, we are going to make it very difficult before we divest."

Mr Grob's view is that the thousand or more underwriting "names" who belong to Howden syndicates would be "horrified" if they thought the operations were to be sold off, to outsiders who would almost certainly lack the professional skills built up by firms like his own over several decades.

A recently formed association set up to represent the interests of the 16,000 underwriting names, who do not actually work in the market, is still fighting for full-blooded divestment. And two "names" are petitioning against the Bill in Parliament on this and other issues.

So far, however, only a few hundred names have answered the new association's call to arms. And the brokers are oozing confidence that the vast majority of "names" will take a look at the cheques they have received in recent years and happily toe the brokers' line.

At the same time it does seem certain that Lloyd's new ruling council to be set under the Bill will be sufficiently aware of outside pressures to separate brokers and underwriters, possibly by the creation of separate boards.

This is the view of Mr Ian Posgate, a director of Alexander Howden. As a Lloyd's man through and through he is in favour of divestment as the real long-term solution. But he claims to have no difficulty in at the same time holding to the Howden group philosophy "that the present relationship is super".

His view is that divestment will fall by the wayside, but that Lloyd's will act to create a formula which at least allows that two sides of the equation be seen acting completely independently.

Richard Allen
Insurance Correspondent



The Lutine bell: divestment battleground.

Independen[t] steel crisis underlined

By Peter Hill
Idustrial Editor

Profit margins for the priv... sector of the steel industry h... slumped to a "derisory" ... per cent and if a spate of ba... ruptcies among independ... companies is to be avoi... negotiations on the sec... so-called "phoenix compa... will have to be spee... achieved.

Publication of a report* ... the performance of the i... pendent steel companies o... the past four years has und... lined the depth of the cr... that the steel industry ... experiencing and which ... become even more severe o... the past 10 months. At 2.5 ... cent, profit levels are less t... half the level of four years a... with the average return ... capital amounting to only ... per cent.

The first of the phoenix jo... venture companies between ... BSC and GKN—which ... brought together the wire ... and associated interests of ... two under a new comp... Allied Steel and Wire—... only recently established ...

Against the background ... the severe overcapacity in ... overlap areas between the B... and private sector compani... the Government is attempti... to form a second joint vent... company to rationalize ... engineering steels sector. Th... company would embrace GKN... Brymbo works, Hadfield, t... Lonrho-owned steelmaking co... pany Round Oak (which ... jointly owned by the BSC a... Tube Investments), and so... of the steelrolling plant ... Duport, which would be merg... with engineering steel ope... tions of the BSC.

Formal details of the agr... ment reached some weeks a... between BSC and Duport, und... which the Duport plant ... Llanelli will be closed, a... other facilities to be held te... porarily by the BSC a... expected to be published imm... nently.

* *Steel Producers*, ICC Busine[ss] Ratios, £80.

More share prices

The following will be add[ed] to the London and Region[al] Share Price List tomorrow a[nd] will be published daily i[n] Business News.

Commercial and Industrial
Moben Group

Beneficiaries of dockland projects

Brokers' views

This year will see the start of important redevelopment projects along London's empty docklands to the east of Tower Bridge. Despite the continuing conflict between builders and local authorities, the developments are planned for a depth of about 1½ miles on both river banks and offer enormous commercial attractions for both builders and City businesses in need of office space.

At stake is the actual mix of buildings required in replacing acres of derelict wharves and factories and the environmental problems of inadequate road, rail and underground links and Thames flood risks. In a report published last Friday, Mr Keith Crawford of W. Greenwell, looks at some of these problems and the commercial advantages to the developers most likely to benefit.

Until recently Taylor Woodrow's redevelopment at St Katherine's Dock—still five years from completion—had been the only project to take off.

But Mr Crawford points to about a dozen quoted companies that are already committed to some form of property development. Many of these are "second time round" projects killed off in the mid-seventies' development debacle

The new London Urban Docklands Development Corporation, which is expected to be enfranchised by late-summer by Parliament, would be the overriding authority and is vigorously opposed by local authorities. Within its planning boundaries the corporation is likely to have the most valuable sites—the 22 acres at Hay's Wharf owned by the Kuwait Investment Office, the 50 acres to the east of St Katherine's Dock leased by Tower Hamlets Council and others, and 120 acres in the Surrey Docks leased to the Lysander consortium, including Costain.

Companies with the most significant exposure to dockland projects are Taylor Woodrow, Town and City Properties, Carron Holdings, Costain and Hammerson Property, MEPC, and Capital and Counties. Others are contractors such as Henry Boot Construction, Brent Walker, Tarmac and Laing.

On these assumptions Greenwell recommends Taylor Woodrow as a buy at a share price of 523p. It also recommends Town and City Properties as a speculative buy at 31p, and holding or buying shares in Carron.

The commercial pressures are strong both from the present excess demand for office space from City concerns—three leading banks have recently signed up for space outside the square mile—and from the building industry, which needs work.

Several broking firms have been looking at companies that have reported recently and shown particular signs of recovery. Capel-Cure Myers recommends Waring & Gillow on the grounds that the furniture retailer shows considerable growth potential

Although the recent poor figures were expected the broker believes that now that it is rid of its loss-making clothing business and after its decision to withdraw from manufacturing the group should recover this year.

Margareta Pagano

An architect's impression of one of the possible schemes for Hay's Wharf.

Briefly

Standard Industrial Group: Sales revenue for the half-year to December 31 slipped from £4.53m to £4.12m, but pretax profits tumbled from £225,000 to just £10,000.

Record Ridgway (subsidiary of Bahco): Sales for year to September 28, 1980, £20.81m (£20.63m). Pretax loss, £262,000, against a pretax profit of £238,000 last year.

Cray acquisition: Cray Electronics has acquired Capacity Engineering (Tools), an unlisted, privately-owned company engaged in the merchanting of a wide range of engineers' tools. The total consideration was £84,030, equivalent to the value of the assets transferred.

Catalin: Group turnover for 1980, £7.42m (£9.37m). Loss, before tax and extraordinary item, £576,000 (profit, £425,000). No dividend (against 5.5p gross last time).

Midland News Association: Pretax profits for 1980 (53 weeks) was £3.28m (£2.65m for 32 weeks).

Joseph Hoyle & Son (subsidiary of Lister): Turnover for half-year to September, 1980, £2.26m (£3.77m). Pretax loss, £98,000 (loss, £53,000).

Edward Le Bas (subsidiary of Burch Holdings): Turnover for 1980, £19.95m (£16.53m). Pretax profits, £279,000 (£247,000).

Firmin & Sons: Turnover for 1980, £2.21m (£1.94m). Pretax profits, £334,000 (£378,000). Total dividend, 5p gross (against 4.23p last time).

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	12%
Barclays	12%
BCCI	12%
Consolidated Crdts	14%
C. Hoare & Co	*12%
Lloyds Bank	12%
Midland Bank	12%
Nat Westminster	12%
TSB	12%
Williams and Glyn's	12%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 9¼%, up to £50,000 9¾%, over £50,000 10¼%.

The Over-the-Counter Market

Capitalisation £000's	Company	Last Price	Ch'nge on week	Gross Div(p)	Yld %	P/E
3,873	Airsprung Group	67	+3	6.7	10.0	6.0
1,250	Armitage & Rhodes	50	—	1.4	2.8	20.6
11,548	Bardon Hill	189	—	9.7	5.1	7.1
7,308	Deborah Services	95	—	5.5	5.8	4.7
3,974	Frank Horsell	106	−1	6.4	6.0	3.2
7,079	Frederick Parker	49	+4	1.7	3.5	21.3
1,554	George Blair	73	—	3.1	4.2	—
2,675	Jackson Group	107	+1	6.9	6.4	4.1
16,236	James Burrough	118	—	7.9	6.7	9.7
3,315	Robert Jenkins	325	—	31.3	9.6	—
2,460	Scruttons "A"	51	—	5.3	10.4	3.7
3,308	Torday Limited	215	—	15.1	7.0	3.7
2,137	Twinlock Ord	10	+½	—	—	—
1,966	Twinlock 15% ULS	72	—	15.0	20.8	—
7,019	Unilock Holdings	45	—	3.0	6.5	7.1
12,653	Walter Alexander	100	—	5.7	5.7	5.5
6,045	W. S. Yeates	259	−2	13.1	5.1	4.9

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etback at Iome 'ounties Iewspapers

.uton-based Home Counties wspapers saw pre-tax profits ible from £1.3m to £403,000 1980. Turnover rose from 3m to £10.6m. But the final out of 6.78p means the full-r dividend is maintained 9.28p.

'his year has started badly, h management accounts wing a loss for the first two nths which is described as ot unexpected". Redundan-s have been announced at ee plants and further econ-y measures are being imple-nted.

oomy outlook at ombwell Foundry

Vith the pre-tax loss for the f-year to January 31 almost bled to £484,000 (against .8,000), the board of Womb-il Foundry and Engineering 'no: paying an interim divi-it. Shareholders received an erim of 0.53p gross last time, no final. The chairman, Mr L. Bramah, says there is no dence that conditions are proving.

acallan-Glenlivet pects downturn

Banffshire-based Macallan-enlivet, the Highland malt isky distillers, managed to rease pre-tax profits from 05,000 to £235,000 in the lf-year to January 31, 1981, turnover up from £1.78m £2.08m. But the board says it the profit improvement s obtained in spite of a sharp wnturn in trade in the last v weeks of the period, a wnturn which is expected to ntinue for the remainder of 81 and be reflected in lower ofits.

airview Estates ell placed

With turnover down from 5.4m to £11.73m, pre-tax pro-s at Fairview Estate con-icted from £4.8m to £2.7m in e half-year to December 31. the recent reductions in erest rates bring some confi-nce back to the country in neral, the board tells share-lders, Fairview's industrial d commercial division is well iced to take advantage, as it lds a good stock of sites for th office and industrial use all in prime locations.

igger deficit r Lister

In the six months to Septem-r 27, 1980, the pre-tax loss at Lister group of textile inufacturers widened from 41,000 to £767,000 on turn-er down from £19.49m to 5.26m.

ividend cut by uis Gordon

In 1980, the pre-tax profits of Luis Gordon Group slumped m £475,000 to £50,000, but board explains that it feels right to pay a dividend and e of 0.71p gross is recom-nded, compared with 2.14p t year. Turnover was down m £16.09m to £14.55m.

Strike expected to have little effect

Freight

While the strike by United States miners, which started on Friday, is expected to be a short-lived affair, it is subject to a 10-day ratification period. Providing all goes well, the strike is likely to end about the middle of this week and will therefore cause no heating up of the freight market. In any case, the stocks at the loading facilities were high so a long strike would be required before shipping arrangements were hit.

News of the tentative settlement was a sufficient source of relief to encourage a return of inquiries from Japanese and continental charterers. Over recent weeks, against the threat of the strike, these had turned their attention to South Africa and Australia as alternative sources of supply. Not only was there interest in fixtures last week but also some new business was concluded. Among this was a spot booking by Shell for a 90,000-tonner from Hampton Roads to the continent at $11.25.

Apart from coal, strong interest has been evident in North American grain with fixings both to Europe and the Far East. Across the Atlantic several bookings involving vessels of 55,000 to 73,000 tonnes were completed at a steady level of $17 to $17.25. From the United States Gulf to China $40.50 to $42.75 was paid for shipments of 34,000 tonnes and 26,000 tonnes respectively.

Brokers supported a fair volume of inquiry for tonnage to ship grain from the River Plate to Europe as well as for further vessels for cargoes from North America to the Middle East and north Africa.

The Great Lakes season has now begun with the opening of the St Lawrence Seaway, but after several bookings over recent weeks new business in the past seven days has been slow to emerge. A few fixtures were rumoured, however, including the charter of a 26,000-tonner to the continent at $9,000 a day.

Time chartering ended the week on a busier note having experienced a generally quiet time. The late revival included tonnage booked by Chinese, Bulgarian, Portuguese and South Korean charterers.

The slight improvement that had become discernible in VLCC rate levels continued through last week. A VLCC westbound can now expect to secure between WS 27 and WS 29.6, according to speed. Whether the slow upward movement rates will continue is anybody's guess. Owners resistant to the lower rates that prevailed in earlier weeks plus a drop in the amount of relets tonnage are claimed to be the reasons behind the 2-3-point rise in VLCC levels.

In spite of this the tanker markets still have nothing to get excited about. With the arrival of spring the market still has to face high stocks, a recession causing a decline in consumption and a surplus of available tonnage. In the Gulf alone some 30 UL/VLCCs are reported to be awaiting cargoes, nor to mention several others slow steaming or waiting in other areas.

Some owners have begun to return their vessels into layup but there is still a long way to go before sufficient tonnage is idle to see the return of profitable rates.

David Robinson

Business appointments

Directors named at John Laing

Mr R. Pawsey becomes a joint managing director and Mr K. J. Gilder, Mr P. E. T. Spencer, and Mr J. M. K. Laing become directors of **John Laing Construction.**

Mr Reg Bamber has become **National Westminster Bank's** representative in Moscow. He has been manager at the bank's Deptford branch, London, since 1974.

Mrs Sam Harrington has joined the board of **Mountvale**, a subsidiary of Emray.

Mr Michael May has been elected president of the **Builders' Benevolent Institution** for 1981-82. He is the chairman of Killby and Gayford.

Mr Eric G. Everett and Mr Garth M. Ramsay have been appointed non-executive directors of **British Underwater Engineering.**

Mr Barry Eames has been promoted to the post of vice-president of European operations, **Northern Telecom,** Electronic Office Systems, which in Europe is known as Data 100.

Mr Edward White has been appointed finance director of **Christian Salvesen** in place of Mr J. M. Barber who has become chairman and managing director of Christian Salvesen (Food Services).

Mr Ian W. Reeves has been appointed chairman of **High-Point Services Group** after the resignation of Mr F. S. Pardoe. Mr Reeves and Mr Robert V. Wharton will be joint managing directors. Mr Reeves also takes over from Mr Pardoe as chairman of CTMS. He and Mr R. V. Wharton again will be joint managing directors.

Mr C. H. Peter Trollope has been appointed director in charge of business developments. His former responsibilities as managing director of **CTMS (Europe)** are taken on by the company's deputy chairman, Mr Wharton. Other appointments to the board of CTMS are Mr A. S. Martin, who has also been named assistant managing director of High-Point Contract Services, and Mr R. M. Dorman, director and general manager of CTMS (Far East) resident in Hongkong. Mr A. E. Bullock, a director of CTMS (Far East), and Mr I. S. Findlay, the group financial controller, are named divisional directors of CTMS.

Mr Hiroshi Katsura has joined the board of **Drayton Far Eastern Trust.**

Mr J. P. MacArthur becomes a non-executive director of **Clive Discount Holdings** on April 1. He succeeds Mr M. C. Rawlence who retires as a non-executive director on March 31.

Mr John Beck has been appointed a director of **Miller Buckley Construction.**

Mr John Manfield Blake has been appointed a non-executive director of **Spring Grove Services.**

Mr John Bong, general manager of the consultancy service of the Post Office, is to become **Telecom** director of overseas liaison and consultancy next month.

Mr Richard Price has been appointed director of regional affairs at the **Confederation of British Industry.**

Mr P. R. P. Chadwick has been appointed to the board of **J. Hepworth and Son.**

Mr M. E. McConnell is appointed to the board of **Stewart Wrightson Holdings.**

Mr Michael S. Harvey has been appointed to the boards of **Robt. Bradford & Co.** and **Robt. Bradford Hobbs Savill.**

Mr David Helliwell has been appointed national sales manager of **Tibbett & Britten.**

Mr R. J. Legg has been appointed personnel director of **Rumbelows** as from April 1.

Mr Bryan Hildrew has been elected chairman and Mr G. J. Mortimer vice chairman of the **Council of Engineering Institutions** for 1981-1982.

Mr W. H. Taylor has been appointed a director of **Terra Nova Insurance Company.**

Mr Philip Restaino, who held the position of director of marketing, Cough Cold Products, for **Bristol-Myers** in New York, becomes director of its consumer division, succeeding Mr Gerry Beddall who becomes executive vice president of Clairol Canada. Mr Bill Boysen, formerly manager of financial analysis with the outer Europe and Australasia division, becomes financial director. Mr John Jackson, financial director for the past three years, has been appointed director of the pharmaceutical division, replacing Mr Pieter Geuze, who has returned to New York to develop the international business.

Mr Leon Levy, chairman of the board of **Oppenheimer (Holdings) Inc.,** has been appointed as a non-executive director of **Electra Investment Trust.**

Mr Keith Williams has joined the board of **Roger Malcolm Ltd** as a non-executive director.

Mr D. S. Winterbottom, group financial director, has additionally been appointed company secretary of **Evode Holdings.**

Prutec, the company established by Prudential Assurance in association with PA International has announced that its directors are: Dr Derek Allam, chief executive, Mr Ronald Artus, chairman, Mr Gordon Edge, Mr James Findlay, Professor Sir Hugh Ford, Mr Peter Lawson, Sir Ieuan Maddock, Mr Brian Medhurst, deputy chairman and Professor Sir Peter Swinnerton-Dyer.

Dr J. V. Butcher becomes managing director of **Yorkshire Chemicals** with effect from July 1.

Mr S. Adam has been appointed to the board of **Rosehaugh.**

Mr D. W. J. Garrett, Mr N. T. Sibley and Mr P. A. Wichelow become directors of **Robt Fleming Holdings.** Mr J. D. Drysdale and Mr R. Templeton become directors of **Robert Fleming and Co.** Messrs P. A. Barnshaw, P. G. Brealey, A. A. Clark and L. H. Jones become directors of **Rebtr Fleming Investment Management.**

Mr Frank Boiteux has been appointed deputy managing director of **IPC Exhibitions** and **IPC Conferences,** subsidiary companies of **IPC Business Press.** Mr Chris Timmins and Mr Len Marvelly, exhibition organizers in **IPC Exhibitions,** have been appointed executive directors.

Pifco raises interim dividend

In spite of difficult conditions, Pifco Holdings managed to achieve similar results in the half-year to October 31, 1980, from higher sales. Pre-tax profits were up from £656,000 to £692,000, including investment income of £177,000, against £171,000. The interim payment is being lifted from 2.28p to 2.51p gross, but the board views the future with "continued caution".

Western Motor omits payout for second year

By Our Financial Staff

Western Motor Holdings, the Plymouth-based motor trade group, has again passed the final dividend on a pre-tax loss last year of £316,000. At the halfway stage the group made a profit of £340,000.

This is the second year that the group has reported full-time losses, after showing a profit for the first six months. In 1979 the group went into the red by £366,000. Shareholders have received no dividend payment for almost 18 months. The last payout was a gross 1.428p announced with the 1979 interim figures.

Western Motor, which distributes, sells and stores a wide range of British cars including Rolls-Royce, Bentley, Triumph, Rover, Austin-Morris and MG, has recently bought a Datsun main dealership.

Turnover for 1980 rose from £31.5m to £36.1m and depreciation from £986,000 to £1.1m. The group's interest charge was up by 78.4 per cent to £1.32m and an extraordinary debt of £230,000, against a credit last time of £4,513, brought the attributable loss to slightly over £500,000 against £320,000 last time.

Mr James Smyth, chairman, says in a statement which accompanied the results that in common with all sections of the motor industry the company had a most difficult year.

The pattern experienced in previous years of profits in the first half of the year and losses in the second half has been repeated, he says. "The losses result from a substantial decrease in the throughput of the car delivery division and reduced margins on the retail motor trade operations", he said.

Mr Smyth says that it has been necessary to reduce manning levels in both these divisions and certain loss-making activities have been terminated.

However, Mr Smyth says the group's first venture into the leisure industry with the £250,000 acquisition of Derbyshire Holiday Centre, Rhyl, has produced a "satisfactory result".

Promising resurrection for New Orleans exchange

From Anthony Hilton
New York

Commodities

For almost 100 years cotton futures were traded in New Orleans. Then in the mid-1960s, after a long struggle against dwindling membership and lack of investor interest, the exchange closed its doors. But next week, on April 7, the clock will be turned back and a new commodity exchange will open in a fine old building just a two-minute walk from New Orleans's famous French quarter and a stone's throw from the wharves and barges on the Mississippi.

It is just the latest example of the tremendous interest in futures trading which has been prompted by volatile exchange rates and persistent inflation. And it is also a sign of the times that the men behind this venture are convinced they will turn this into one of the world's key commodity markets in as little as three to five years.

New Orleans Commodity Exchange's president, Mr Thomas Webber, a 15-year veteran on the Chicago commodity pits, says quite bluntly that he expects New Orleans to be number three or four in America by about 1985. That puts it still behind the two Chicago commodity exchanges but ahead of one or all of the New York markets—which may come as something of a shock to the brokers up north.

Obviously on the eve of the launch Mr Webber is bound to be optimistic, but even so, there are sound reasons why his exchange could succeed, even if not as dramatically as he predicts. Chief among these is the care that has gone into selecting the contracts, all of which are original and none of which is traded elsewhere.

Typical are two grain contracts, rough rice and milled rice. Although this is the world's second largest food grain after wheat and the United States is one of the world's leading producers, no exchange in the world offered a contract on it. As Mr Webber says it looks like an obvious gap in the markets.

Much the same can also be said of the other contracts which should come on stream in the weeks after the official opening. Though soyabeans can be traded in Chicago, the New Orleans contract will be different as it is designated in export, not domestic, prices. This can only grow, Mr Webber says, because world demand for soyabeans is soaring. The United States is an important producer, and the bulk of the exports go through New Orleans. The other leading producer is Brazil, where the soya crop is now worth more than coffee, and this accounts for the unusual feature of the exchange the clocks give Rio de Janeiro time.

The cotton contract is also different. It is in short staple cotton, the type grown in America's south, while New York trades the long grain cotton grown in California and Arizona. The New York cotton contract has not been a great success but southern weather is much less predictable than that of California, and as a result prices of this type of cotton are more likely to fluctuate.

The bulk of the people dealing on and running the exchange have had to be imported from markets elsewhere, and in layout with its "pits" and "open outcry" bidding system the market looks like a smaller, cleaner version of the Chicago Board of Trade. "We are using tested methods of trading", Mr Webber says. "We were not going to be first to try to use computers."

In his view the exchange will succeed because New Orleans is one of the leading ports in the world, which means it has strong support from local commercial and industrial firms, most of which have a history of dealing in the physicals. The contracts were designed only after lengthy consultation with the trade and for the trade. Accordingly he expects participation in the market from the whole spectrum of interests—exporters, importers, commercial grain companies, merchandisers, commission houses, producers, speculators and floor traders. That backing, he says, will give the market the liquidity and depth it needs to get off the ground.

But it is not what will propel the market to the number three slot in the nation. That will come from phase two of Mr Webber's plan, which is to launch an energy package. Again, he thinks this is a natural development following from the business New Orleans does importing much of America's oil, coupled with its plans to become the world's number one coal-exporting port.

Mr Webber has already applied for permission to launch a series of contracts in home heating oil, coal, diesel fuel, natural gas, and (probably Saudi light) crude oil. Taken together they will make up what he calls a comprehensive energy package.

Silver: Some familiar voices are being raised in the silver market again, *Michael Prest writes.* Despite pressure from the Federal Reserve Board and Congressman Henry Reuss, the Hunt brothers seem to be in no hurry to unload their silver in the orderly fashion apparently prescribed in their famous loan agreement.

At the same time another legislator, Congressman Larry McDonald, has introduced a Bill that would require the Government to buy more silver for its stockpile rather than sell the almost 140m ounces that an administration Bill proposes.

With silver trading at between $13 and $14 an ounce it is still well below the $23 an ounce at which the Hunts are understood to have to sell. The terms of the agreement between the silver bulls and the banks are not fully known, however, and that is another factor giving longs some restless moments.

The Hunts' strong card could be that in a pretty depressed market any big selling—however "orderly"—must send prices plummeting. Silver stocks are rising at the moment. With the Hunts resisting in the courts further investigation by the Securities and Exchange Commission, we will hear more voices yet.

Weekly list of fixed interest stocks

	Latest price	Prev price
Alb & Wilson 7¼ Deb '85-90	67¼	67¼
All Ply Hlds 9¼ Ln '92-97	67½	67
All Brew 6¼ Deb '87-92	58¼*	58*
Do 7½ Ln '93-98	58¼*	58¾*
Ass Bis 7¼ Deb '90-95	65½	66
AB Foods 5½ Ln '87-2002	21½	22¼p*
Assoc Elec 6 '78-83	84½*	85*
Do 9¼ Deb '86-91	64¼	64½
BICC 7¼ Deb '90-95	64¼	64¼
BLMC 6 '98-2003	35	34
Do 7½ Ln '87-92	44	44½
Do 8 Ln '98-2003	45	44½
BOC Int 5¼ Deb '81-86	85	85¼
Do 9 Tonnage 1988	87½	88
Bank of Ireland 7 Ln '86-91	58¾*	57¾*
Barclays Bank 8¼ '86-93	70¾	71
Barclays Int 7½ '86-91	65	65
Bass Ltd 3¼ Ln '87-92	44½*	44½*
Do 7¼ '92-97	59½*	59¾*
Do 8¼ Deb '87-92	68¾*	68¼*
Beechams 6¼ Ln '78-83	85¼	84½
Do 8½ Ln '84-94	66¼*	65½*
Bibby 10¼ Deb '94-99	78	78
Brmid Qual 7½ Ln '87-92	54*	55*
Blue Circle 7 Deb '88-93	65¼	65*
Do 9 Deb '92-94	73	71½
Boots 6 Ln '78-83	85½*	85*
Do 7¼ '88-93	62¼*	62¼*
Bridon 8 Deb '88-93	66¼	66
Brit Am Tob 7 Ln '82-87	85¼	85
Brit Shoes 7 '80-82	93¼	93
Brooke Bond 5¼ Ln 2003-08	39	39
Burmah Oil 6½ Ln '78-81	96	96
Do 8½ Ln '91-96	64½	65
Do 7½ Ln '81-86	77½	78
Burton Gp 9¼ Ln '98-2003	67¾*	66¾*
Cadbury Schweppes 8¼ Ln '94-2004	63¼	63
Coats Patons 4½ Ln 2003-07	34½	33
Do 7½ Ln '90-95	57¼	57½
Courage 6¾ Ln 2004-09	48¼	48
Do 8 2nd Deb '89-94	66¼	66¾
Courtaulds 6½ Ln '94-96	45½*	45¼*
Do 7 '82-87	71¼*	72¼*
Do 7¼ Deb '89-94	63¾*	63¾*
Debenhams 6¼ 2nd Deb	56½*	55¾*
Do 6¼ Ln '86-91	56½*	56½*
Do 7¾ Ln 2002-07	57¼	56¼
Distillers 7¼ '88-93	62	63
Dunlop 6¼ Deb '85-90	65*	64*
EMI 7 Ln '87-92	62½	62
English Elec 6 Deb '80-85	83¼	84
Fisons 6¼ '84-89	66¼	66
GEC 7¼ '87-92	64½*	62¼*
Do 7¼ '88-93	63¼*	63½*
Gen Acc 7¾ '92-97	61	61
Glaxo 7¾ '85-95	29½p*	29¼p
Glynwed 10¼ Ln '94-99	73¼*	72*
Grand Met 10 '91-96	75¾*	74¼*
GUS 5¾ Ln	37½	38
Do 7¼ Ln '83-88	70¾*	71*
Do 8¼ Ln '93-98	63	63¼
Hawker Sid 7¼ Deb '87-92	66¼	66¼
ICI 5¼ '94-2004	43	43
Do 7¼ Ln '86-91	65½	66
Do 8 '88-93	63¼	66
Imperial Gp 10¼ Ln '90-95	75¼*	76*
Do 7½ 2004-09	54	55¼*
Initial Services 8 Ln '88-93	65*	64*
Int Stores 7¼ Ln 2003-08	59½	59½
Laporte 10¼ Deb '94-99	76¼	76
Land Securities 8½ '92-97	63¾*	67¼*
Lewis's Inv Tst 6½ 2nd 85-90	62½	62*
Lucas Ldn 7¾ '83-88	69	69½
MEPC 8 Ln 2000-05	58¼*	58½*
Metal Box 10½ '92-97	74*	74¼*
Midland Bank 10¾ Ln '93-98	81½	82
Nat West Bank 9 Ln 1993	72¼	72½
Rank Hovis 6¼ Ln '76-81	96½*	96¼*
Do 6¾ Ln '85-88	65¾	65
Reckitt & Col 6¼ Deb '85-90	66½	65¼
Reed Int 7¼ Deb '90-95	68	67¾
Rugby Port Cem 6 '93-98	48	48¼
Sainsbury (J.) 7¼ Deb '87-92	63½	64
Scot Newcastle 5¾ Deb	81¾	84
Do 7¼ Deb '89-94	68	67½
Slough Est 7½ Deb '85-90	70	70
Smith (W. H.) 5¼ Ln	35	35
Spillers 7 Deb '78-85	87½	87¼
Do 7¼ Deb '84-89	68½	68½
Tate and Lyle 7¼ Deb '89-94	61¼*	61*
Thomson Org 5 Deb 64-94	74¼	74¼
Do 7½ '87-92	63½	62¼
Tilling (T.) 6½ Ln '89-94	68½	67*
Tootal 4¾ Perp Deb	34	34½
Do 7¼ '85-90	68	67½
Truman Ltd 7¼ Deb '88-93	62*	62*
Turner & Newall 8 Ln '87-92	64	64
UDS 7¼ Deb '85-90	65¾*	66½*
Do 10¼ Deb '89-94	78*	78*
Unigate 6½ Ln '91-96	52*	52½*
Do 7¼ Deb '89-91	70½	71
Unilever 6¼ Deb '85-88	69*	69¼*
Watney 7¼ Ln '94-99	56½	54½
Do 8 Ln '90-95	65½	65½
Whitbread 7¼ Ln '95-99	57¼	57¾
Do 7¾ Ln '96-2000	60½	59
CONVERTIBLES		
Adwest 10½ '95-2000	200	200
AB Foods 7½ '94-2004	355*	355*
BLMC 7¼ '82-87	52*	51*
Beechams 6¼ '84-94	242*	247*
Bowater 7 '92-97	100	90
Guest Keen 6¼ 1985	71½	74¼
Imperial Gp 8 '85-90	69*	68½*
Ind & Gen 4½ '94-99	148*	147*
MEPC 5 '89-94	183	169
Midland Bank 7½ '83-93	68½	69
Romney Tst 4¾ '73-93	100	105
Tate & Lyle 13 '94-99	102½	101
Temple Bar 6 '87-91	93	98½

*Ex dividend

Lack of agreement on interest rate levels

Euromarkets

Investors and borrowers in the international dollar bond market generally are not seeing eye-to-eye about what interest rate levels are appropriate for new issues, *writes AP/Dow-Jones.*

A syndicate led by Credit Suisse-First Boston had to postpone a $100m seven-year note issue of Chemical Bank because of disagreement over the terms. Syndicate sources said that Chemical Bank had declined to increase the yield much above the originally indicated level of 13.75 per cent. However, with the market deteriorating because of rising short-term interest rates, a much higher yield would have been needed to sell the issue, investment bankers said.

"There is strong investor resistance to new issues except those with manfiestly attractive coupon rates", one observer said.

Indeed, some bankers contend that most of a $75m eight-year note issue of the European Investment Bank was left with the underwriters because the terms were not attractive enough. After being priced at 94.63 bearing 12.75 per cent to yield 13.90 per cent at maturity, the issue fell to 91.25 last Friday. This raised the yield to about 14.68 per cent.

However, while demand for a $50m six-year note issue of Southern California Edison Co was not particularly strong, several bankers said the pricing was realistic. The 14 per cent coupon issue was priced at 98.5 to yield 14.39 per cent. In the aftermarket, the issue was quoted at 97 bid, 97.50 offered.

A $50m, 10-year bond of issue of Genstar, a Canadian construction and shipping company, was priced at 99 bearing 14.75 per cent to yield 14.95 per cent. Apparently the yield was not quite enough to pull in much investment demand. The issue traded as low as 96.50 before moving up to 97.25 in the aftermarket to 97-97.50.

Although there was not much enthusiasm for straight dollar debt offerings, a $60m, 15-year convertible Eurobond issue of Hospital Corporation of America got a warm reception, syndicate sources reported. Salomon Brothers International, the syndicate manager, indicated that the issue would carry a coupon rate of between 8.75 per cent and 9.0 per cent. It also indicated that the issue would be convertible into the hospital chain's New York-listed shares at a premium of around 15 per cent.

"A lot of the stock is held in Europe and people seem to be willing to sell the stock and buy the bonds", one banker reported.

Eurobond prices (yields and premiums)

STRAIGHT DEBT	Price	YTM
Sears 9 1982	95¾	14.45
Australia 8 1983	94¾	14.16
EEC 7¼ 1982	95¼	14.13
Sweden 7½ 1982	92¾	14.42
BFCE 8¾ 1985	90¾	15.34
Norway 8¼ 1983	90¼	15.95
ICI 11 1985	95¾	14.44
New Zealand 8½ 1983	90¼	13.89
Canada 8½ 1985	89¼	14.59
EIB 8 1984	85¼	14.47
Sweden 9¾ 1984	89½	13.80
GMAC 11 1984	92¼	13.81
Elf Aquitaine 8¼ 1985	85¼	14.00
Dayleasa 11¼ 1985	91¾	14.97
IBM 10¼ 1985	96¼	11.37
EDC 9½ 1986	86¼	14.23
Australia 8¼ 1986	85	12.98
Midland 8¾ 1986	85¼	13.00
ICI 8¼ 1987	78¼	13.62
Eksportfinans 11¼ 1987	90	13.84
World Bank 10¼ 1987	86¼	13.61
Beneficial 11¼ 1988	82¼	15.77
EDF 10 1988	82¼	13.87
Shell 8¼ 1990	73½	13.56
Anheuser Busch 11¼ 1990	85¼	14.25
Unilever 9¼ 1990	80¼	13.62
Utd Biscuits 11 1990	82	14.65
Norsk Hydro 9 1991	79¾	12.60
Hydro Quebec 11½ 1992	83¾	14.73
Australia 8¾ 1992	75½	12.76
Barclays 8¼ 1992	71¼	13.45
Hudson Bay 10 1993	79¼	13.14
Dow Chemical 8¾ 1994	80¼	12.67
[illegible] 11 1995	81¼	13.62
ECSC 8¼ 1997	67¾	13.77

CONVERTIBLE BONDS	Price	Conv Prem
Alco Standard 9½ 1994	97	8.91
Beatrice 4½ 1992	80	15.69
Eastman Kodak 4½ 1988	91	10.93
Enserch [illegible] 1994	154	−1.16
Ford 5 1988	63	48.16
Galveston-Houston 8¾ 1994	130	1.99
INA 8 1997	128½	.82
Lear Petroleum 8 1988	114	5.01
J. P. Morgan 4¾ 1987	96	4.34
Revlon 5¼ 1987	104	−1.80
Sperry Rand 4¼ 1988	113	.41
Warner Lambert 4½ 1987	71½	54.30
Xerox 5 1988	68	79.75
DMK ISSUES	**Price**	**Yim**
ECSC 7¾ 1986	94	9.17
OKB 9 1987	97	9.66
World Bank 7¾ 1988	88¼	10.08
Kobe 8 1990	90½	9.38
Austria 8¼ 1992	89	9.88
FLOATING RATE	**Price**	**Currnt Yield**
American Express 1982	100¼	15.93
BNP 1983	100¼	17.55
Bank of Tokyo 1984	100¼	15.81
IBJ 1985	100¼	17.70
Offshore Mining 1986	100¼	17.71
Midland 1987	100½	19.92
Credit National 1988	99¾	16.67
CZB 1989	99¾	17.90
Barclays 1990	100¼	20
BNP 1991	99¾	17.71
Midland 1992	99¼	17.27
Chase Manhattan 1993	99¾	17.42
Nat West 1994	99¾	17.17
Barclays 1995	99	17.74

Source: Kidder Peabody Securities Limited.

Stock Exchange Prices

Capitalization and week's change

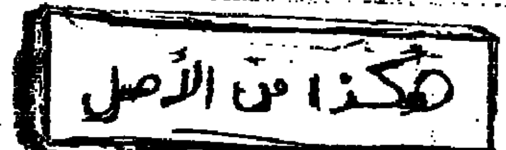
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Today. Dealings End, April 9. § Contango Day, April 10. Settlement Day, April 21

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

BRITISH FUNDS

Stock outstanding £	Stock			Price last Friday	Ch'ge on week	Int only Yield	Gross Red Yield
SHORTS							
900m	Exch	8¼%	1981	99¼	+¼	8.312	11.621
800m	Exch	9½%	1981	99¼	..	9.584	12.012
600m	Exch	3%	1981	96⅝		3.105	11.775
600m	Exch	12¾%	1981	100⁵⁄₁₆	..	12.710	12.186
861m	Treas	8½%	1980-82	97¼	+¹⁄₁₆	8.740	12.152
400m	Treas	3%	1982	94⅜	-¼	3.179	9.741
600m	Treas	14%	1982	102	-⅛	13.725	11.739
600m	Treas	8¼%	1982	95⅜	-³⁄₁₆	8.651	12.287
1600m	Exch	9¼%	1982	95⅛	-³⁄₁₆	9.698	12.730
800m	Exch	8¾%	1983	94⅜	-³⁄₁₆	9.271	13.359
600m	Exch	3%	1983	88⅝	-½	3.384	9.676
1550m	Treas	12%	1983	98¾	-½	12.153	12.736
800m	Treas	9¼%	1983	93⅝	-¹⁄₁₆	9.887	12.521
800m	Exch	13½%	1983	101⅜	-³⁄₁₆	13.316	12.870
900m	Exch	10%	1983	93⅝	-³⁄₁₆	10.680	12.851
500m	Fund	5½%	1982-84	86¾	-¼	6.341	11.117
1100m	Exch	11¼%	1984	96⁵⁄₁₆	-³⁄₁₆	11.698	12.867
1100m	Exch	14%	1984	102¾	-³⁄₁₆	13.624	12.916
1000m	Exch	3%	1984	80¼	-⅛	3.738	10.340
1050m	Treas	12%	1984	97⅝	-³⁄₁₆	12.282	12.759
1000m	Treas	15%	1985	107¼	-³⁄₁₆	13.985	12.596
1000m	Exch Cv	12%	1985	98⅜	-½	12.199	12.495
600m	Treas	3%	1985	75⅛	-⅛	3.993	10.553
MEDIUMS							
1300m	Exch	12¼%	1985	98¼	-½	12.469	12.757
1150m	Exch	11¾%	1986	96⅛	-³⁄₁₆	12.192	12.768
500m	Treas	3%	1986	69½	-³⁄₁₆	4.326	10.955
600m	Treas	8½%	1984-86	87⅝	-½	9.930	12.283
500m	Exch	13¼%	1987	103¼	-⅛	13.144	13.045
559m	Fund	6½%	1985-87	78¾	•	8.253	11.438
1000m	Treas	12%	1987	93⅝	•	12.652	13.194
500m	Treas	7¾%	1985-88	80	-⅛	9.845	12.462
1052m	Trans	3%	1978-88	64¼	-⅛	4.684	10.106
600m	Treas	11½%	1989	91⅜	-⅛	12.678	13.444
601m	Treas	5%	1986-89	63½	• ..	7.603	11.363
600m	Treas	13%	1990	100⅞	-½	13.219	13.322
600m	Treas	8¼%	1987-90	80⅛	-⅛	10.568	12.296
800m	Treas	11¾%	1991	92⅞	-½	13.030	13.581



TIMES PAST THE TIMES

READER SERVICES GUIDE

BUSINESS SERVICES

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complete range of plain-paper copiers and
crofilm equipment 01-560 2131.
arkeley Safe Deposit Co. Ltd
1/15 Davies Street, London, W1 01-409 1122
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approval), 31 North Row, London, W1R 2EN.
01-493 2761
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ndon, Kettering & Dartford 01-407 8080
press Companies Registrations Ltd
Ltd Companies, 25 City Rd E C 1 588 3271
M/Autotyping
twork, printing, mailing, Red Tape 01-493
179
tervision Video Ltd
deo films for rent, sale Free list 01-727 1453
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or details of trial offer ring 01-723 6045
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ffice Installations Ltd
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& R Corporate Development
apital Raising, Takeover Advice 828 2924.
tandard Chartered Bank Ltd.,
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ommercial and Domestic Watford 29587

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usiness & greeting card spec. 01-748 1122.
opywriter for All Reasons
all 01-794 3109 any time.
esigns for Business
hone us for leaflet of services 01-437 0096.
ale Melville Ltd
onference Aids, Presentation Folders, Promotio-
al Gifts. Chertsey (09328) 61211
eo Burnett Ltd
ales and Award winners for Perrier, Cadbury,
trongbow, Mini, The Times etc 01-836 2424.
iddle East and Pan Gulf Advertising
onsultants
1-734 0932
rinting Administration Ltd
dvice, Production, Storage. 01-928 1982
eam Creative (Advertising, Artwork, Design
nd Print) Ltd
1-836 9775 Top quality design studio.

BUSINESS GIFTS & PROMOTIONAL SERVICES

ugusta Golf Products Ltd
rinted golf tee packs 500 min 044385 2353.
ourne Publicity Limited
ee Catalogues. 1,000 + gifts. 048-67 80282.
k & Co. Limited
ames, gifts & sales aids 01-979 9921.
perial Promotions Business Gifts Ltd
xclusive advertising pens. 01-806 7187/8.
centive Metals Limited
adges, key rings, pens, ties, etc. 01-223 8288
MC. The promotional pen people.
1-346 8421 Advertising pens — All prices.

BUSINESS TRAVEL

usiness & Holiday Travel Ltd
nt. & group travel experts 01-839 4114
omsons Travel Bureau Ltd
siness Travel Specialists. 01-242 9962
astbeam Consular Services N.E.
as and leg station 01-221 6882/3.

CATERING — PRIVATE & COMMERCIAL

y Cooks
tering at its best. 01-735 4129, 407
06/1520
stronomique
licious food for any occasion 01-242 9997.
h Table Management
ectors and staff Central ndon. 248 1703.
rcantile Catering Service Ltd
ssex Road, Bourne End, Bucks. 06285 22844
vertewho/Bigbyre better fed? 228 2384.

CLEANING

eTakers Cleaning & Maintenance
Goswell Rd London EC1 01-278 2578.
an World (Office Cleaning) Ltd
ces, floors, carpets, windows 01-889 4310
al Service Cleaners Limited
y Office/Factory Cleaning. 0707 44541
O Nationwide Cleaning Services
ce, Indust. 10/16 Cole St, SE1 01-407
13.
tron Office Cleaning Services Ltd
Wigmore Street, W1. 01-486 2917
st End Cleaning Service Ltd
ce & comm cleaning 01-462 2263/6752

COACH HIRE

leyheath Transport Co
ury coaches for all occasions. 303 6303
rnational Coach Lines Ltd
ate/contract hire. 684 9472 Telex 946981
ner Passenger Transport
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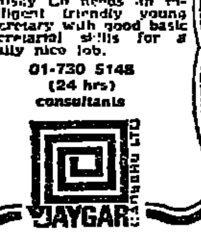
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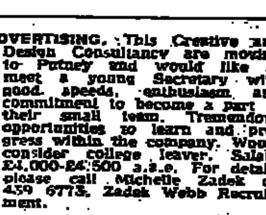
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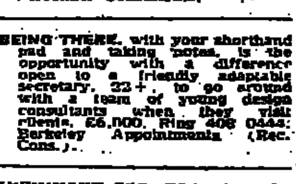
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ST PAUL'S GIRLS' SCHOOL

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Personal Secretary for the High Mistress wanted immediately, to deal with her busy appointments schedule and the efficient, smooth running of her office. Good shorthand and typing. Excellent working conditions. Applications in writing to the High Mistress, with curriculum vitae and names and addresses of two referees.

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Learn a great deal about property as Secretary/PA to this charming Financial Director. Provide a full Secretarial service and handle his diary, make his travel arrangements and organise some admin. Attractive offices and a very happy environment too. Please telephone us today on 499 7781.

SARAH HODGE RECRUITMENT
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Legal PA/Secretary

£6,000

A career position with excellent perks and pleasant surroundings in this well known specialist firm as PA to a senior partner. Your ability to communicate with clients and to deal responsibly with their confidential matters will be fully appreciated by your boss who likes to delegate. Secretarial skills and some legal experience are essential. Call Jane Clarke on 628 5520.

DRAKE PERSONNEL (Consultants)

RESEARCH £5,000

In this scientific department which is part of an International concern, assist these research chemists with new developments from Siberia or the USA. The Department not only locates new projects but also puts them into effect in developing countries. A scientific technical background preferable plus secretarial skills although slow shorthand will suffice. Call Sue Jones on 628 8248.

DRAKE PERSONNEL (Consultants)

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£4,800-£5,000

Young secretary with some office experience, average shorthand acc. typing who is prepared to help organise functions and events for well known Association.

01-730 5148
(24 hrs.)

JAYGAR CAREERS
Consultants

AUDIO SECRETARY REQUIRED

for two associate partners of international firm of surveyors, based in Mayfair. Experience in property useful but not essential. Would suit second jobber. We offer competitive salary. To find out more

Ring 493 6787

NEWSPAPER AND ADVERTISING

Covent Garden non-profit making set up which is responsible for major advertising and promotion work for wide range of newspapers needs PA/Sec with s/h for Admin Executive; £5,500.

COVENT GARDEN BUREAU
53 FLEET STREET EC4
01-353 7696

ADVERTISING. This Creative and Design Consultancy are moving to Putney and would like to meet a young Secretary with good speeds, enthusiasm and commitment to become a part of their small team. Tremendous opportunities to learn and progress within the company. Would consider college leaver. Salary £4,000-£4,500 a.a.e. For details please call Michelle Zadek on 439 6773. Zadek Webb Recruitment.

AMERICAN BANK.—A career package second to none. The use of your skills (50/100) plus flair for organizing and charming personality dealing with VIP clients will enable you to reap the high rewards and promotional prospects offered. Benefits include mortgage subsidy, travel and meal allowance, social club and more: £6,000-plus to start, age 22-plus.—Call 01-839 1832/3/4. Prime Personnel Consultants.

BEING THERE, with your shorthand pad and taking notes, is the opportunity with a difference open to a friendly adaptable secretary, 32+, to go around with a team of young design consultants when they visit clients. £6,000. Ring 408 0444; Berkeley Appointments (Rec. Cons.).

SHORTHAND SEC, EC4. Must be good all-rounder to work for two partners in small firm of accountants. Age immaterial, salary negotiable. For further information call Christine Jones, 439 7072, Centacom Recruitment Consultants.

MONDAY MORNING! c. £6,000; nr. Marble Arch. Shorthand Sec. for accts. dept. of this friendly shipping/oil co. Very plush surroundings. Immediate start.—Contact Madeleine Weyman, Bligh Appointments, 01-493 4372.

PERSONAL SECRETARY for senior recruitment consultant, nr Green Park. Excellent typing required plus rusty shorthand. Expanding Co., c.£5,500. Madeleine Weyman, Bligh Appointments, 493 4372.

ANNABEL'S OFFICE needs a bright and efficient secretary, 22-25. Salary £6,500. Tel. 629 0650.

£6,000+—Working for the Executive Director of a well-known charity, you will assist in all aspects of campaigning, fund raising and liaise with prominent businessmen. Apart from using your excellent secretarial skills, you will be responsible for day to day administration and be able to cope confidently if the Director is abroad. For more details, call 01-248 6745, Paterson Emp. Agy.

CONSERVATIVE M.P. requires Secretary with Parliamentary experience.—Box 2795 F, The Times.

SEC/PA to £6,000 SW1, for small company in Victoria/Belgravia. No shorthand but will manage all secretarial functions and work on own initiative. IBM memory typewriter. 4 weeks holidays. Tel. Mrs. 834 7105.

SHORTHAND RUSTY? Late-20's, don't despair. 2 charming Executives in W1 Management Consultants are waiting to welcome you and your typing skills, audio and just a touch of shorthand. Your reward will be a pleasant and interesting career starting around £6,000 p.a.; 4 weeks hols. L.V's, B.U.P.A., etc. Joyce Guiness Staff Bureau, 589 8807/0010.

INVEST in your career with 2 young Executives busy in the Security Sales Dept. of Int. Investment Bank. They need to delegate to an enterprising P.A./Sec., early 20's, with accurate shorthand typing and an enterprising approach. Around £6,000 p.a. to start plus attractive profit bonus scheme, etc. Joyce Guiness Staff Bureau, 589 8807/0010.

FRENCH/ENGLISH college-leaver, bi-lingual s/h, £4,500. Language Staff Agy, 485 8923.

SECRETARIAL

COMMERCIAL CONVEYANCING

Top £££ Top £££

Top benefits include 2 generous yearly bonuses, L.V.s, frequent increases and excellent starting salary awaits a mature Sec./P.A. with a commercial conveyancing background. Not much typing or shorthand for this delightful Senior Partner—more a P.A. post with admin. and organisation. Get the most for your talents by ringing us straight away on 499 7781.

SARAH HODGE RECRUITMENT
115 NEW BOND ST. W.1.

PERSONNEL SEC.

(No Shorthand) £6,000

An ideal career move if you have some personnel experience and are seeking to become more involved. Really great team would like you to join them in controlling this American Company's recruitment and staff welfare. Plenty of social organising and generous perks. Prospects are excellent. Call 637 9922. Prime Personnel Consultants.

OUR BRITISH HERITAGE

Meet top executives from the world of British industry. Join a busy director supervising the day-to-day running of a new trust set up for the renovation of national and historic property. You'll be left to hold the fort and arrange his extensive travel itineraries. Sound secretarial experience and skills will be well rewarded.

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DRAKE PERSONNEL (Consultants)

P.A./SEC. TO M.D.

Fantastic opportunity to work for M.D. of international company (W.1). Must have excellent credentials, aged 30 to 35. Salary to £7,000.

P.A./SEC.

to Board member (City). A truly challenging position for a top secretary (30-plus). Must have professional background to incl. appearance, education and attitude. Salary to £7,000.

BARNET PERSONNEL
(Recruitment Consultants)
Phone: 01-629 3867

NON-SECRETARIAL



Stella Fisher IN THE STRAND

TRAVEL CONSULTANT

This small but expanding City agency is more than willing to train the right person, so the only essentials will be a pleasant, confident personality, combined with numeracy, accuracy and the ability to use initiative. Starting salary £4,500 p.a. 25 to 35.

Stella Fisher Bureau
110 Strand, W.C.2 01-836 6644
Recruitment Consultants

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INTELLIGENT, diplomatic, industrious, presentable, well-spoken person with good telephone manner and good sense of humour who enjoys dealing with people required as receptionist for busy Bond St. contact lens practice. Languages and typing advantageous. £4,500+ neg. Phone 01-408 2121.

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NURSE RECEPTIONIST required for interesting private medical practice. Wimpole Street, W.1. Some typing and clerical work involved. Pleasant manner with patients and colleagues. High salary. Hours 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. five days. Telephone 723 0036.

P/T HELP for children's clothes shop.—See Part Time Vacs.

PHOTO AGENCY W1 needs self-motivated person with background in studio or labs as consultant/interviewer. 01-439 1821.

CAN YOU INTERVIEW A MARQUIS, stockbroker, or racing driver? A fashion editor, nurse or secretary? Mastermatch, London's leading partner selection club seek membership auditors for their new offices from May 1st in St. James's. Tuesdays to Saturdays 11 a.m., last appointment 7 p.m.; aged 30-50 max: presentable, personable, intelligent, healthy, educated, unattached and tender-minded. £80 p.w. basic + generous bonus, subsidized Greek island holidays, 3 weeks' holiday.—Write, enclosing c.v., handwritten letter and current photograph, to Diana Dale, Mastermatch, 25 Kings Rd., London SW3 4RP. We also never forget you have a choice?

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GOOD TEMPERS

... with good skills and attitude are needed for interesting long and short term assignments with, for example, an adv. agency, hotel, property or oil company.

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(24 hrs.)
consultants



JAYGAR

TEMPS

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01-493 3054

NEW HORIZONS are always interested to hear from experienced secretaries with compatible skills to join their team of professional Temporary Staff. 01-499 9192.

DEMONSTRATOR.—Assist clients in their choice of luxury kitchens from exclusive showrooms in S.W.1. Hours 10 to 5. Early 30s. c. £4,500. Daven Agy. 734 4154.

STEPPING STONES

YOUNG SECRETARY with s/hand wanted immediately for small, friendly buying agency, close to Piccadilly. Starting £4,500.—Phone 734 4461.

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PART-TIME Secretary/PA over 25 to run designer's small office off Bond Street, 5 hours daily, afternoons. Good typing essential. £60 p.w.—Tel: 734 7953 after 1 p.m.

LADY 25+ required by luxury car hire company as part-time chauffeuse. Clean driving licence and knowledge of London necessary. Ring 352 5722.

PART-TIME HELP required in exclusive Kensington Children's clothes shop. Must be available occasional Saturdays and school holidays. Please write to Anthea Moore Ede, 16 Victoria Grove, London W.8.

WANTED. Maths tutor for Easter holiday. S.W.3. Phone 351 1773, before 10.00 a.m.

PERSONAL

MOTOR CARS

JAGUAR E-TYPE 4.2 FIXED HEAD COUPE

October 1970. Signal Red. mechanically rebuilt. New black interior, chrome wire wheels, tinted glass; new tyres, stereo radio/cassette. Immaculate condition.

£5,800.
Ring 0333 350736.

BMW T REG

323 i 1979 Bronze BMW, Radio, Cassette, Sun roof, Limited flip differential etc. £5,250 ono.

Wadhurst 2292 or Seven Oaks 59571 (office)

MERCEDES 450 SLC

V Reg. Almost all accessories including, stereo/radio, radio cassette player 'Mexico'. Air conditioning. 5,500 miles. Silver blue.

01-262 1454

LOTUS ESPRIT 1979 V reg. 6,400 miles, metallic brown, leather trim. Pioneer radio cassette, factory serviced; £9,500. Tel: 979 1661.

JAGUAR 4.2, 1976, P. Reg., B.R.G., P.a.s., "purrfect" Director's car. £3,000. 801 6973.

ROLLS-ROYCE & BENTLEY

ROLLS-ROYCE SILVER SHADOW

Blue and grey (two tone). 1978.

Very good condition, Stereo, radio etc. Very large sunshine roof, new tyres.

£14,900 ono

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FREELANCE Spanish translator/interpreter. Write to Box No. 2909 F The Times.

MORE SUITABLE posts required for language secretaries leaving college shortly with shorthand in English & French, German or Spanish. Bi-lingual employers are invited to contact—Polyglot Agy, 214 Bishopsgate, E.C.2. 247 5242.

CHEF-SPECIALISING French cuisine, available for private/business assignments. Please telephone 01-352 3317.

MEDICAL STUDENT seeks vacation employment. Driving licence. 01-997 1684.

FLAT SHARING

[illegible]

RENTALS

[illegible]

RENTALS

Cutlass

We do not claim to be magicians, we do try harder to find good tenants for good properties. If you wish to let a flat or house in London, please telephone us to discuss your requirements. We have long-established contacts with many banks, companies and embassies and we need good properties for responsible applicants.

Cutlass & Co., 01-589 5247

LIPFRIEND & CO.

W1 luxury apartment, 3 double bedrms., 2 baths., super kitchen, large recep., close Und. £250.

WEMBLEY 3 bedrms, det. house, 2 receps., good kitchen/breakfast, 1½ baths, gge, gdn. £130.

CHELSEA. Newly decorated 2 bed. flat in sought after block, good recep., balcony, c.h. inc. £130.

N12. Modern 4 bedrm. det. house, 1½ baths, good reception, gge., gdn. good value £110.

CHISWICK. 3 bedrm., 1½ baths, house, double recep., good kitchen, patio. Close Und. £110.

BAKER ST. 2 bedrm. apartment, nice reception in good block very convenient for Und. £100.

499 5334

CABBAN & GASELEE

CHELSEA Flat. 1 double bed. 1 recep., kitchen and bath. £75 inc.

S.W.7 Flat. 2 double beds. recep., large kitchen/dining room, bath, excellent decor. £150.

BELGRAVIA House with lovely garden and terrace. 3 beds, 2 recep. kitchen—all machines, 2 baths. Highly recommended. Colefax & Fowler decor. £350 p.w.

01-589 5481

PORTLAND PLACE, W.1.

Spacious, elegant 3rd floor flat in prestige block mins. from Regents Park and Oxford Street. 5 beds., 2 recep., kit., 2 bath + 2 sep. cloaks. Well furnished. All services. Ideal co. flat. £500 p.w. Allen Bates

ALLEN BATES & CO.
499 1665

CHESTERTONS

Mansfield Street, W1
Attractive 1 bed. Flat dec. & furn. by Interior Designer. Large recep. rm., well equip'd. kit. Large Patio. Close all amenities. Avail. now Co. Let. 6/12 mths. plus £150 p.w.

Craven Hill Gdns., W2
Attractive 2 bed flat. Unusual features incl. spiral staircase & minstrel gallery. Well equip'd. kit., sep. dining rm. Avail. now 6/12 mths. Co. let. £165 p.w.

01-262 5060

BELGRAVIA MEWS, S.W.1. Beautifully restored and decorated west-facing House. 2 double bedrooms, single bedroom, 2 bath rooms (1 en suite), large double reception room, very modern kitchen, and garage. Company let required. Unfurnished £350 [illegible]

[illegible]

RENTALS

Anscombe & Ringland

HAMPSTEAD. Newly furn. and dec. ground floor maisonette with beautiful south facing gdn. 3/4 beds, lux. bath, newly fitted kit., split level recep., patio & garden. C.H. 1-2 years. £250 p.w.

ST JOHNS WOOD. Superior period hse. in sought-after road. 6-7 beds., 3 lux baths (main en suite), superb living room, dining room, T.V. room/study, breakfast room, utility, large lux fitted kit., gge., parking, beautiful gdn with p.b. play room. C.H. 1-3 yrs. £500 p.w. 01-435 7122.

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For art enthusiasts this lovely Ninth floor flat in a modern block is ideal: Reception, kitchen, double bedroom, bathroom, storage room. £120.00 p.w., c.h., c.h.w., lifts, porterage and entryphone. Garage by separate arrangement.

BELGRAVIA, SW1

A pretty mews cottage avail for 6 months with pine country kitchen. Maid service avail. 2 receptions, kitchen, 2 bedrooms, bathroom. £200.00 p.w. Negotiable.

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Executive type 4 bedrooms detached house in Olde Worlde Village. Rural outlook. Bordering Wye Valley. Lease at £250 per week.

021-475 3375

LITTLE VENICE

5 mins. Park Lane, Baker Street

Magnificent period town house, beautifully furnished and superbly well equipped. 5 double bedrooms, 3 receptions, 3 bathrooms, show piece kitchen, etc. £400 p.w. long let. Short let terms by arrangement.

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Nathan Wilson

BRENT CROSS NW2 bargain cosy 2 bed flat only £60 p.w. neg.

HOLLAND PARK W11 owners own immaculate 2 bed flat, in fine house, superb location £95 pw.

NW3 choice of spacious 2 bed flats, from £100 p.w.

We specialise in residential lettings and offer friendly & expert service. Call us now 794 1161.

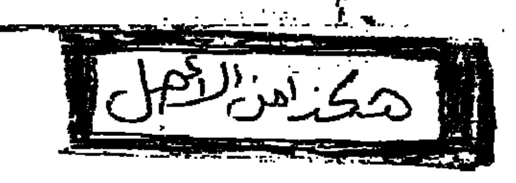
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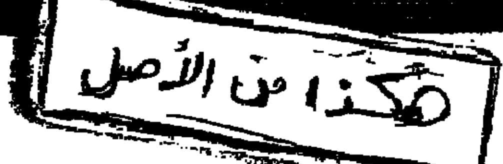
SERVICES

BRITISH INSTITUTE OF FLORENCE

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(continued on page 24)





Broadcasting Guide

Edited By Peter Dear

PERSONAL CHOICE

[illegible]ronica, played by Wanda Ventham (centre) is accused by [illegible]r former friends Fiona (Zena Walker, right) and Caroline [illegible]laine Donnelly) of assault, theft and blackmail in Crown [illegible]ourt (ITV, 1.30pm)

The theory of evolution is the subject of Did Darwin Get It [illegible]rong ? tonight's offering from the consistently good Horizon [illegible]BC 2, 9.30) Darwin's theory is based on the slow evolution of [illegible]nimals over thousands of years, adapting to the climate and [illegible]rrain they inhabit. This is contested by the Biblical Creationists [illegible]ho say if that were true fossils should show signs of gradual [illegible]hange and this they do not. Horizon explores an alternative [illegible]olution theory termed punctuation equilibrium. This seeks to [illegible]plain the long periods in which species seem to remain stable [illegible]d then suddenly change in a faster time than seemed possible. [illegible]his has been recognized in fossils that have remained in their [illegible]iginal form for millions of years on their unhurried way to [illegible]xtinction yet some of their number, seemingly to escape a similar [illegible]te, suddenly changed into new creatures. It is a complicated [illegible]ubject and it is a feather in the cap of Horizon to attempt an [illegible]planation.

Continuing his Roots of England series (BBC 2, 7.40 pm) Brian [illegible]rueman visits Hull to talk to the dockers about their tough life [illegible]ade even tougher by the lack of shipping utilising the port. [illegible]hese men are descended from families who came to Hull at the [illegible]nd of the last century attracted there by the work provided in [illegible]onstructing deep water docks. But today there is no [illegible]odernisation planned for the port and the dwindling sea trade [illegible]as meant that only the sons of old dockers are eligible to take [illegible]eir father's place when they retire. They are bitter about the [illegible]ast but fortunately they have a natural outlet for their [illegible]uberance in the city's two successful Rugby League teams — [illegible]ull and Kingston Rovers. Support for one of these is prerequisite [illegible]r living in Hull and the fanaticism has in many cases split [illegible]milies, something that is unlikely to happen in other parts of the [illegible]ountry, with the possible exceptions of Liverpool and [illegible]anchester. Fiercely independent, as all Yorkshiremen seem to [illegible]e, the Hull dockers are a rare race apart.

With the benign features of Sir Alec Guinness firmly implanted [illegible] our minds as John Le Carre's hero George Smiley, it comes as a [illegible] of a shock to find this role being played in a radio adaptation [illegible]y the coraical spiv in ITV's Minder series, George Cole. The [illegible]ory, A Murder of Quality (Radio 4, 6.30 pm) has been adapted for [illegible]dio in five parts by Rene Basilico and it begins with Smiley [illegible]wing recently retired from 'The Circus' being asked to use his [illegible]t inconsiderable intellect to unravel a series of strange incidents [illegible] a famous English public school. Norman Bowler co-stars as [illegible]spector Rigby.

Earlier in the afternoon Radio 4 presents the first of a six-part [illegible]laptation of Conan Doyle's Study in Scarlet (4.45). First [illegible]iblished nearly a century ago, it is the first of the [illegible]olmes/Watson mysteries and it begins with their meeting which [illegible]ads them to take rooms at 221B Baker Street. The story is read [illegible]y Nigel Lambert as Dr Watson.

[illegible]HAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: † STEREO; ★ BLACK AND [illegible]HITE; (r) REPEAT.

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 am Open University: Genetics: Meiosis; 7.05 Psychology: Questions of Behaviour; Closedown at 7.30.
9.00 For Schools, Colleges: Working as a Health Service Technician; 9.30 Physical Science; 9.52 Writing a best seller; 10.15 Music Time; 10.40 French conversation; 11.00 Merry-go-Round. Tony Aitken reads the earth; 11.40 Art and War; Closedown at 12.05 pm.
12.45 News.
1.00 Pebble Mill at One. The popular magazine programme today includes an item on car maintenance introduced by Marian Foster; 1.45 Mister Men. Cartoon adventures of Mr Dizzy and Mr Greedy with the voice of Arthur Lowe.(r)
2.01 For Schools, Colleges: Words and Pictures; 2.18 The Bible and Archaeology; 2.40 The different jobs to be found at a motorway services area. The narrator is John Dunn. Closedown at 3.00.
3.15 Songs of Praise. Noreen Bray introduces the programme from St Asaph Cathedral, Clwyd (first shown yesterday at 6.40 pm); 3.55 Play School (shown earlier on BBC 2).
4.20 Winsome Witch. Our heroine fights the wicked Dr Zero in a cartoon entitled Shoo Spy(r); 4.25 Jackanory. Sheila Staefel reads the first part of Forrest Wilson's Super Gran; 4.40 The All-New Popeye Show. Two more cartoon adventures featuring the pipe-smoking spinach-lover(r); 5.00 John Craven's Newsround. World news for young people presented in an adult fashion.
5.05 Blue Peter. We see highlights of Peter Duncan's heroic efforts in yesterday's London marathon; a foretaste of the amazing juggling feats of the Flying Karamazov Brothers; and Percy Thrower in the Blue Peter garden; 5.35 Fred Basset. Cartoon adventures of a droll houndr(r).
5.40 News read by Kenneth Kendall;
5.55 Nationwide. Regional news plus Hugh Scully's regular weekly look into complaints of bureaucratic abuse, Watchdog.
6.55 Triangle. The penultimate part in the serial that has followed the fortunes of a North Sea ferry crew;
7.20 Star Trek. Captain Kirk is mysteriously left alone on his starship when he tries to beam down on to the planet Gideon.
8.10 Panorama: Behind the Dublin Summit — The Inside Story. Peter Taylor probes the British government's policy after the summit meeting between Mrs Thatcher and Mr Haughey.
9.00 News read by Jan Leeming.
9.25 Film: The Deserter (1971) starring Bekim Fehmiu, John Huston and Chuck Connors. In return for a pardon Captain Kaleb leads a disparate band of trouble-makers to kill-off a group of renegade Indians led by Chief Mangus Durango.
11.00 Film 81. Barry Norman with the last in his series devoted to the world of cinema. Tonight he reviews the Royal Performance film, Chariots of Fire and La Cage aux Follies II, the sequel to the enormously successful play about two gay St Tropez night club owners. On location Michael Crawford talks about his new film Condorman in which he plays a cartoonist who tries to live like his characters.
11.30 Education Shop. The second in a series of eight programmes for parents of school-going children. Tonight's programme is entitled Is Small Beautiful ?
11.55 News headlines and weather.

Regions
BBC 1 VARIATIONS: Cymru/Wales 9.52 am-10.12 I Vysolion 1.45 pm-2.01 Pila Pala 5.55-6.20 Wales Today 6.55-7.20 Heddiw 11.55 News and weather. Scotland 11.00 am-11.20 For Schools. 12.40 pm-12.45 The Scottish News. 5.55-6.20 Reporting Scotland 11.30-12.00 Cearcall 12.00-12.25 am Education Shop 12.25 News and weather. Northern Ireland 3.53 pm-3.55 Northern Ireland News. 5.55-6.20 Scene Around Six 11.55 News and weather. England 5.55 pm-6.20 Regional Magazines. 12.00 Close.

BBC 2

6.40 am Open University: Strawberry Hill; 7.05 Lord Kelvin's Clock; 7.30 Potsdam 2: The Confrontation. Closedown at 7.55.
11.00 Play School. Entertainment for the under-5s presented by Carol Chell and Ben Thomas. The story is Mary Cockett's Enough is Enough. Closedown at 11.25.
4.50 pm Open University: Classical Greece: The Theatre; 5.15 Dynamic Aspects of NMR; 5.40 Maths: Lagrange's Theorem; 6.05 M101/6 Rational Numbers; 6.30 Farming: Organic or Intensive.
6.55 Artists in Print. Ellen Kuhn makes a screenprint and Gerd Winner works with master printer Chris Prater of Kelpra Studio. 7.20 Cameo. Wild geese who have been wintering in our islands return to their nesting grounds in the Arctic circle at the first signs of Spring. The narrator is Douglas Leach.
7.30 News with a sub-titled synopsis for the hard-of-hearing.
7.40 Roots of England. Brian Trueman visits the city of Hull, famous for its two Rugby League teams and its docks. But the dockers' jobs are few and far between now and only the sons of dockers are allowed to join the long waiting list for a job (see Personal Choice).
8.15 Marti Caine. Her guests tonight are Tony Christie, Wall Street Crash and flautist Elena Duran.
9.00 Yes Minister. Jim Hacker's concern for the quality of life seems to be a vote winner. He is successful in restricting the height of an office block and he is interviewed by Sue Lawley when he visits a Children's City Farm.
9.30 Horizon: Did Darwin Get It Wrong ? A look at the arguments for and against the theory of evolution. The narrator is Paul Vaughan (see Personal Choice).
10.20 Say it with Baby Grand. The bizarre Welsh band tonight bring an alternative view of the life style of a cowboy with help from their guest Andy Fairweather Low.
10.45 Newsnight. Peter Snow, Charles Wheeler, John Tusa and Peter Hobday with the latest news from around the world plus the news behind today's headlines. Linda Alexander and David Icke have news of the weather and sport. The programme ends at 11.35.

Thames

9.30 am For Schools: Understanding shapes; 9.47 A trip down the Rhine; 10.05 Rogues and villains in literature; 10.23 Simple mathematical concepts; 10.40 French conversation: Join the French holidaymakers at the seaside; 11.05 Derek Griffiths explains the properties of paper to deaf and hearing impaired children; 11.22 Picture Box — to stimulate creative work; 11.39 Continuing the drama about life in Victorian times for a doctor and his family.
12.00 We'll Tell You a Story; Christopher Lillicrap tells the tale of Grandma Tomkins' Crown; 12.10 pm Rainbow; Puppets for educational purposes presented by Geoffrey Hayes; 12.30 Vet; John Speer with guests Jill Robertson, Dr Roger Neale and Chief Inspector R. Hayward look at the training of dogs and the feeding and grooming of pets.
1.00 News read by Peter Sissons; 1.20 Thames News with Robin Houston.
1.30 Crown Court; A widow is accused of assault, theft and blackmail on another widow who welcomed her into her house; 2.00 The Riordans: Drama series about an Irish family in a farming community.
2.30 Film: Where Angels Go, Trouble Follows (1967). The story of a radical nun (Stella Stevens) and the impact she has on her convent, mother superior (Rosalind Russell) and pupils led by Rosabelle (Susan Saint James).
4.15 Dr Snuggles; Cartoon adventures of a philanthropic inventor. Among the voices is that of Peter Ustinov; 4.20 Graham's Ark; This week Graham Thornton talks about the care of hamsters and gerbils; 4.45 Ad Lib. The first of three programmes full of songs, sketches, exercises, musical items and a cartoon character called Yok Yok who comes from Switzerland.
5.15 Money-Go-Round; Joan Shenton and Tony Bastable investigate a case of allergic reaction to food colourings and try and find out why the names of colourings are not printed on food labels. In addition they consider the effect of some video technology which could soon play a large part in our homes and leisure time.
5.45 News; 6.00 Thames News with Andrew Gardner and Rita Carter; 6.35 Crossroads; 7.00 Nature Watch; Julian Pettifer visits Papua New Guinea where Andree Miller employs locals to collect rare species of orchids for the country's botanical gardens. He also talks to Roy Mackay who is trying to preserve the island's rain forest which houses so many exotic species; 7.30 Coronation Street. A bag of dirty washing causes a panic for the Ogdens.
8.00 West End Tales; Fiddler and his cohorts are having withdrawal symptoms because the bad weather has cancelled horse racing for a week. But they think they have found the answer to the problem.
8.30 World in Action; The Men from Argentina. Exclusive film of Three Argentinian arms dealers living in Britain who have been involved in kidnapping and torturing prisoners in a secret camp just outside Buenos Aires.
9.00 The Sweeney; Regan admits he is not getting any younger when he narrowly escapes serious injury when on the trail of a villain.
10.00 News.
10.30 The Royal Film Performance introduced by Chris Kelly and Judith Chalmers. Interviews with the stars as they arrive at the Odeon Leicester Square together with clips from Chariots of Fire, the film chosen for the Queen Mother.
11.15 Lou Grant; Friction arises when a white reporter and his coloured colleague are working on a ghetto killing.
12.10 am Close with Lord Rawlinson of Ewell reading Hilaire Belloc's poem The South Country.

RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Week.
6.30 Today.
7.00, 8.00 News.
7.30, 8.30 Headlines.
8.35 The Week on 4
8.45 BBC Sound Archives
9.00 News.
9.05 Start the Week.
10.00 News.
10.02 Money Box.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Story: The Coldest Winter Since 1854, by William Saroyan.
11.00 News.
11.05 The Great Exaggerator.
11.50 Poetry Please!
12.00 News.
12.02 pm You and Yours.
12.27 Cliche (3).†
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World At One
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Play: The Dancing Faun, by Paul Bryers.†
4.35 Home is . . . (6)
4.45 Serial: A Study in Scarlet, by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (1). (see Personal Choice).
5.00 PM.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News.
6.30 Serial: A Murder of Quality, by John Le Carre (1) (see Personal Choice).
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Just a Minute.†
7.50 Play: The Old Jest, by Jennifer Johnston.†
9.20 Senses of Occasion (4).
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 Science Now.
11.00 Anna of the Five Towns (11).
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15 am-12.23 Shipping Forecast.

VHF
10.02 am Schools: Music Interlude; Noticeboard (1): Time to Move.
10.30 Listen with Mother.
10.45-12.00 Schools: Da sind wir wieder! (10); Singing Together (20); Springboard; Theatre Workshop.
11.00 pm Study on 4: World Powers in the Twentieth Century (23)
11.30-12.10 am Open University: Boats and Planes; Education Otherwise.

Radio 3

6.55 am Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Records: Handel, Britten, Stanley, Haydn (Sym 55)†
8.00 News.
8.05 Records: Rimsky-Korsakov, Vieuxtemps, Rossini, Kodaly†
9.00 News.
9.05 Week's Composer: Delius†
9.50 BBC Northern Singers/Wilkinson: Philips, Sweelinck, Escher†
10.55 Piano: Ireland, Fricker, Ravel†
11.25 CBSO/E. Schmid/Panufnik: Brahms, Panufnik (Vln Conc — Holmes), Wagner, Schumann (Sym 4)†
1.00 pm News.
1.05 Quartet (Cleveland — live from St John's): Haydn (op 64 no 5), Bartok (no 6)†
2.05 Matinee Musicale†
3.05 Violin (Perlman): Bach (Partita 2)†
3.40 New Records: Rossini, Brahms (Pno Conc 1)†
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
7.00 Piano (Gilels), pt 1: Mozart (incl K533/494)†
7.45 Interval reading.
7.50 Piano, pt 2: Chopin (incl op 58).†
8.30 The Price of Victory: (8).
9.40 New York PO/Mitropoulos: Shostakovich (Sym 10).
10.30 Jazz in Britain†
11.00 News.
11.05-11.15 Record: Debussy†

VHF
5.55-6.55 am Open University: What is a Function?; The Context of Welfare; Aural Training (2).
11.15-11.55 pm Open University: Reading in Bottom Gear; Old Age in Ireland.

Radio 2

5.00 am Bob Kilbey.†
7.30 Terry Wogan.†
10.00 Jimmy Young.†
12.00 David Hamilton.†
2.00 pm Ed Stewart.†
4.00 Much More Music.†
6.00 John Dunn.†
8.00 Folk On 2.†
9.00 Humphrey Lyttelton.†
10.00 Movie Quiz.
10.30 Star Sound
11.00 Brian Matthew.† from 12.00
2.00-5.00 am You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2.
7.00 Mike Read.
9.00 Simon Bates.
11.00 Andy Peebles.
12.30 pm Newsbeat.
12.45 Paul Burnett.
2.30 Steve Wright.
4.30 Peter Powell.
7.00 Stayin' Alive.
8.00 Richard Skinner.
10.00 John Peel.
12.00 Close.

VHF RADIOS 1 & 2
5.00 am With Radio 2.
10.00 pm With Radio 1.
12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648 kHz, 463m) at the following times (GMT):
6.00 am Newsdesk 7.00 World News 7.09 Twenty-four Hours 7.45 Short Story 8.00 World News 8.09 Reflections 8.15 Masters of Early Music. 8.30 Thirty-Minute Theatre. 9.00 World News 9.09 Review of the British Press 9.15 Notes from an Observer 9.20 Theatre Call 9.40 Look Ahead 9.45 D J Roundtable. 10.15 Take One 10.30 Moments of Being 11.00 World News 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 New Waves 11.30 Fiesta 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 pm Brain of Britain 12.45 Sports Round-up. 1.00 World News 1.09 Twenty-four Hours 1.30 The Book Programme 2.00 The Best of Beecham 2.30 Thirty-Minute Theatre 3.00 Radio Newsreel 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Sarah and Company. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News 5.09 Book Choice. 5.15 Europa. 5.30 A House for Mr Biswas. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-four Hours 9.15 Europa 9.30 The Best of Beecham. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice 10.30 Financial News 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Round-up. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary 11.15 Short Story. 11.30 D J. Roundtable. 12.00 World News. 12.09 am News about Britain. 12.15 Radio newsreel. 12.30 Little Dorrit 1.15 Outlook 1.45 Europa 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press 2.15 Network UK 2.30 Sports International 3.00 World News 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today 3.30 Fiesta 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today.

WAVELENGTHS: Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 433m/693kHz and 88-91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247/1215kHz and 90-92.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area only; med wave 720kHz/417m. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF, Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF. World Service; med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 206m, 94.9 VHF.

REGIONAL TV

Scottish
As Thames except 1.20 pm-1.30 News 2.00 Film. Squeeze a Flower 3.45-4.15 Money-Go-Round. 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.40-7.00 Crimedesk 10.30 Scottish Liberal Party Conference. 11.30 Royal Film Performance. 12.15 am-12.20 Late Call.

Yorkshire
As Thames except 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Money-Go-Round. 2.30-4.15 Film: Danger in Paradise (Cliff Potts, Ian Bailn). 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00-7.00 Calendar 11.15-12.00 Rugby League. 12.00 Closedown.

Ulster
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.30 Film: Dream Makers (James Franciscus, Diane Baker). 3.45 Money-Go-Round. 4.13-4.15 News. 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00-7.00 Good Evening Ulster. 11.15 Soap. 11.45-11.55 Bedtime.

Border
As Thames except 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.30 Film: Dream Makers (James Franciscus). 3.45-4.15 Money-Go-Round. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.15 The Collectors. 6.30-7.10 Mr and Mrs. 10.30 Scottish Liberal Party Conference. 11.30 Royal Film Performance. 12.00-12.18 am News.

Anglia
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News 2.00 Money-Go-Round. 2.30-4.15 Film: Johnny Come Lately* (James Cagney, Grace George). 5.15-5.45 University Challenge 6.00 About Anglia. 6.30-7.00 Welcome Back Kotter. 11.15 Rockstage. Squeeze. 12.15 am Reflection.

ATV
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Film Night and the City* (Richard Widmark, Gene Tierney) 3.45-4.15 Money-Go-Round. 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00-7.00 ATV Today. 11.15 Rockstage: Squeeze 12.15 am-12.30 Something Different.

Southern
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25 Film: Spy Killer (Robert Horton). 3.45-4.15 Money-Go-Round. 5.15-5.45 Welcome Back Kotter. 6.00-7.00 Day by Day. 11.15 Rockstage. 12.15 am Weather followed by Being A Christian.

Granada
As Thames except 1.20 pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 2.00 Money-Go-Round. 2.30-4.15 Film: Brothers O'Toole (Steve Carson). 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00-7.00 Granada Reports. 11.15 Rugby League. 12.00-12.30 am George Hamilton IV.

Tyne Tees
As Thames except: Starts 9.20 am Good Word. 9.25-9.30 News. 1.20 pm-1.30 News, Lookaround. 2.00 Money-Go-Round. 2.30-4.15 Film: The Colditz Story* (John Mills, Eric Portman). 5.15-5.45 Mork and Mindy. 6.00 Mr and Mrs. 6.30-7.00 Northern Life. 10.30 News. 10.32 Royal Film Performance. 11.15 Northern Report. 11.45-11.50 Family Prayer.

Westward
As Thames except 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Film Naked Truth* (Terry Thomas, Peter Sellers). 3.42 Gus Honeybun's Birthdays 3.45-4.15 Money-Go-Round. 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00-7.00 Westward Diary. 10.31 News. 10.34 Royal Film Performance 11.15 Rockstage; Squeeze. 12.10 am-12.15 Faith for Life.

HTV
As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News 2.00 Money-Go-Round. 2.30-4.15 Film: I Love a Mystery (Ida Lupino, David Hartman). 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00-7.00 Report West. 10.28-10.30 News. 11.15-12.15 am Rockstage: Squeeze.
HTV CYMRU/WALES: As HTV West except. 10.05 am-10.20 About Wales 11.05-11.20 Am Gymru 12.00-12.10 pm Ffalabalam. 2.00-2.30 Hamdden 4.15-4.20 Fiddlin' Around. 4.45-5.15 Ser 6.00-6.25 Y Dydd. 6.25-7.00 Report Wales. 8.30-9.00 Yr Wythnos.

Channel
As Thames except: 12.00-12.30 pm Closedown. 1.20-1.30 News 2.00 Film: Naked Truth* (Terry Thomas, Peter Seller). 3.45-4.15 Money-Go-Round. 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.20 Cartoon. 6.30-7.00 Amazing Years of Cinema. 10.28 News. 10.34 Royal Film Performance. 11.15-12.15 am Rockstage: Squeeze.

Grampian
As Thames except: Starts 9.25 am-9.30 First Things. 1.20 pm-1.30 News 2.00 Film: Night and the City* (Gene Tierney, Richard Widmark). 3.45-4.15 Money-go-Round. 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00 North Tonight 6.30-7.00 Country Focus 10.30 Scottish Liberal Party Conference 11.30 Royal Film Performance. 12.15 am-12.20 News.

Entertainments Guide

Classified Guide

Box No. replies should be addressed to:
The Times, P.O. Box 7,
200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ.

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To place an advertisement in any of these categories, tel. :

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Queries in connection with advertisements that have appeared, other than cancellations or alterations, tel. :

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The deadline for all copy is one clear publishing day. i.e. Monday is the deadine for Wednesday, Friday for Monday & Tuesday. Stops and Alterations to copy is 3.0 p.m. prior to the day of publication; for Monday's issue the deadline is 12 noon Saturday. On all cancellations a Stop Number will be issued to the advertiser. On any subsequent queries regarding the cancellation, this Stop Number must be quoted.

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 22

WEALTH gotten by vanity shall be diminished: but he that gathereth by labour shall increase.—Proverbs 13.11.

BIRTHS

ARNOLD.—On 24th March, at St. Teresa's Hospital, Wimbledon, to Jilly and John — a son, Mark Alexander George Eveleigh, a brother for James.

BAILLIE.—On March 27th, at St. Teresa's Hospital, Wimbledon, to Mary Lou (nee Palmer) and Andrew—a daughter (Victoria Elizabeth), a sister for Emma.

BALL.—On 24th March, 1981, at Plymouth, to Maria and Denis—a daughter (Sasha Effie Tellervo) a sister for Christian and Robin.

COGHLAN.—On March 27th, to Annabel (nee Cross) and Stephen—a daughter.

CONSTANTINE.—On 29th March at the Horton Hospital Banbury, to Lucy (nee Edwards) and Christopher—a daughter.

DOLMAN. — On March 26th, to Robert and Lesley — a son (Adam).

FAIRLEY.—On 17th March, to Joanna and Neil—a son (David Andrew James).

LESTER.—On 19th March, to Lisa (nee Arkwright) and Igor—a son, Richard Leo, brother to Mylan, Anne and Henry.

REISS.—On March 27th, to Pamela (nee Jay) and John—a son (Michael Joseph).

MARRIAGES

LAWSON : WRANGHAM. — On March 28th, in London, Peter Outram Lawson to Anne Teresa Wrangham.

DEATHS

BEADLE. — On Tuesday, 24th March, 1981, peacefully at her home, Suzanne Beadle, widow of the late Fred Beadle, formerly of Willett House, Somerset. A funeral service will be held at St. Michael's Church, Chester Square, S.W.1, at 2.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 1st April, followed by private cremation. No letters please. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Cancer Research Campaign, 2 Carlton House Terrace, S.W.1.

BERGIN, KENNETH GLENNY.—On Thursday, March 26th, 1981, peacefully at home, beloved father of Lizzie, Hame and Mike and devoted and beloved grandpa of Johnny B. and Henly. Family cremation followed by memorial service at Kintbury Parish Church at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, April 1st. Family flowers only to Camp Hopson, Newbury. Donations, if wished, to Reverend A. Millard, Kintbury Vicarage, to be divided between the Newbury Gastroscope Appeal and Kintbury Recreation Trust.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

COWEN.—A service of thanksgiving for the life of John David Cowen will be held at 12 noon on Saturday, 4th April, 1981, at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, London.

HARRIS, PHEMIE, darling, this is to wish you a happy birthday. You are always in our thoughts. Sembo, Sutchins, Ossley, Billie, Bunmums, Jacky, Peter, Soda and Dickums. With love from us all.—Dad-wad.

JACKSON BURROWS, HAROLD, C.B.E. A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Harold Jackson Burrows, C.B.E., will be held on Wednesday, 1st April, 1981, at 12.30 p.m., in the Church of St. Bartholomew-the-Less, Smithfield Gate, London, E.C.1.

MAUGHAM.—A memorial service for Viscount Robin Maugham will be held in St. Paul's Church, Bedford St, London, W.C.2, on Thursday, 2nd April, 1981, at 12 noon.

RICH.—A memorial service for Captain George Rich, will be held at St. Mary's Parish Church, Melton Mowbray, on Thursday, April 23rd, at 3 p.m.

IN MEMORIAM

MILES, ROSEMARY FRANCES. In loving memory of our dear mother. Ann and Celia.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CANCER RESEARCH

If our work had to stop, there would be a setback to the world's growing understanding of the causes of cancer. Voluntary contributions are our ONLY source of support—please send a donation to:

Imperial Cancer Research Fund, Room 160 AD, P.O. Box 123, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3PX.

VOLUNTEER GARDENER needed for large and neglected garden in Kensington, the property of a religious community. No pay but full scope for enthusiast.—01-589 4811.

ARE YOU WILLING to help a charity (Richmond Fellowship)? Free once a week. Acton/Ealing/Wembley; car an advantage (not essential).—Ring 735 3668 after 4.00 p.m.

1920's Showmans Caravan.—See todays For Sale.

WANTED PRIVATELY Victorian service plates. See Wanted today.

IQ test, membership details from Mensa (B), FREEPOST, Wolverhampton WV2 1BR. Tel.: 0902 26055.

YOUR own antique shop: unique opportunity.—See Bus. for Sale.

NURSE/RECEPTIONIST for private W.1. practise.—See non-secretarial.

PA TO MD of Insurance Brokers, £7,000.—Ref Creme today.

ONE of our Accessories allows Phone-Mate answerors to answer two lines.—Ours answer 01-431 0266 0257.

20 PER CENT discount on your new handmade Sofa.—See JBD. For Sale column.

MODERN HARPSICHORD in mahogany case.—See Musical Instruments.

CITY CHURCH urgently needs gift or loan of grand piano suitable for recitals, or help with purchase.—St Anne's Music Society.

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Cheap holidays to Greece!

CORFU. 2 weeks £119. Ex Gatwick May 9 or 16.

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ATOL 588
Access/Barclaycard welcomed

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2 WEEK VILLA HOLIDAY FOR ONLY
£129 p.p.

Holidays include: Flight, transfers, villa accommodation, maid service and services of our resident representative.
PRICES ARE GUARANTEED
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SPETSE: £129 (24 April, 1, 8, 30 May), £139 (16, 23 May, 6 June), £149 (13, 20 June).
CORFU: £131 (24 April, 3, 10, 31 May), £139 (17, 24 May, 7 June), £149 (14, 21 June).
CRETE: £129 (23, 30 April, 7 May), £149 (14, 28 May, 4, 11 June), £159 (21 May, 18 June).
DEPS.: SPETSES—SATURDAYS FROM GATWICK
CORFU—SUNDAYS FROM GATWICK AND MANCHESTER
CRETE—THURSDAY FROM GATWICK
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MOROCCO/GREECE 18-30 Hols. 2 wks.	10 May onw.	99	Young World	0273 2
CYPRUS/MALTA s/c pensions/htls Easter 7/14 dys	11/16/17/18 Apr.	Var.	Bon Aventure	01-937
SYMI GREEK VILLA PTY. 2 wks.	27 May	209	Small World	01-240
KOS Villas/Hotels 2 wks.	14 Apr.	125	Timsway Holidays Rickmansworth	7
CORFU Villas/Apts 1-2 wks.	May	145	Villa Seekers	01-837
BEACHCOMBER 1-2 wks.	May	109	Medina	01-836

ATOL Nos. respectively: 321B, 141B, 782B, 879B, 458B, 11.., 1165B, 778B.

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PRICES FROM

CORFU	April 9, 16, 23, 30	....	1 week £115	2 weeks
RHODES	April 15, 22, 29	....	1 week £115	2 weeks
ANDROS	April 17, 24	....	1 week £155	2 weeks
SPETSE	April 17, 24	....	1 week £159	2 weeks

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ABTA ATOL 13

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RESISTA CARPETS LTD
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A SET of 6 Victorian dining chairs with turned legs, near matching carvers; all perfect condition.

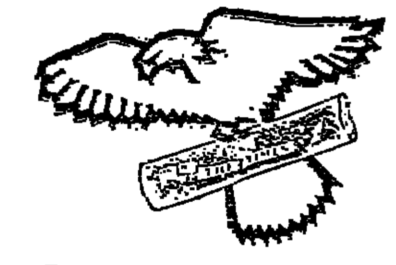


The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,487

ACROSS
1 Something in wine to elevate the worker, perhaps (8).
5 Notes played by instrument in two seconds (6).
10 Metal for making other parts (5).
11 Odd dream—Orlando's servant opening letter (4, 5).
12 "Ghosts by Gogol? (4, 5).
13 Taxing system an eye-opener for the recipient (5).
14 Action stoppage? Not in US anyhow (7).
16 Reluctant to give a Bible reading (6).
19 Does he really regret returning? (6).
21 Princess's castle was unshakable (7).
23 Brother-writer forbidding talking (5).
25 J.S. clothes poor lad in silk brocade (9).
27 Upset concerning the endless hubbub (9).
28 Repair a beauty spot (5).
29 Open this to find gold (6).
30 Border mount used in battle (8).

DOWN
1 Dazzling soprano embraced by crooner (8).
2 Grandee in deeply dyed outfit (9).
3 Shocking hymn-writer? (5).
4 Surely bound to change! (2, 5).
6 Bugs one found in fibre? Tear in pieces (9).
7 Possible description of either kind of cheek (5).
8 Cook makes point, always in German (6).
9 An upsetting custom—a cause of ill-feeling (6).
15 Might expire before fighting (9).
17 A winding course set for Naples? (9).
18 Novelist finds gun—had altered number (8).
20 Concerning drill for motor maintenance (6).
21 Let none marry after all? (7).
22 Cold lodgings for mounted soldier before 1915 battle (6).
24 Bits of news this paper edited (5).
26 Daily prophylactic? (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,486



"Falcon took off with The Times"

This is the sentiment expressed by John Kaye and John Boyle, co-directors of Falcon.

"Since our old companies, Crawford Perry Travel Ltd and Chancery Travel Ltd, merged in the autumn of 1979 to form the Falcon Leisure Group Ltd, the new company has certainly "taken off", thanks to the power of the classified columns of The Times. During this winter Falcon made another important acquisition—SILVAIR HOLIDAYS LTD—operating a highly successful programme to many popular summer sun destinations. This Luton based operation nicely complements our other Falcon regional centres.

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Printed and Published by Times Newspapers Limited, P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ, England. Telephone: 01-837 1234. Telex: 264971. Monday, March 30, 1981. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.